No. 7569.19

Exchange from

C. F. Libbie & Co.

APPEAL

OF

SAMUEL D. GREENE,

IN

VINDICATION OF HIMSELF

AGAINST THE

FALSE SWEARING

OF

JOHNSON GOODWILL,

A MORGAN CONSPIRATOR,

IN THE CASE OF

COMMONWEALTH vs. MOORE & SEVEY,

EDITORS OF THE MASONIC MIRROR,

FOR

A LIBEL ON SAID GREENE.

BOSTON:
1834.

ERRATA.—Page 16—9th line from the top, for "on *oath*" read "*solemnly*."—The declaration there given was not made on oath.

39th page 4th line from the bottom, "Light on Masonry" 177 page, Allyne's Ritual, 273 page

Exchange from
C. T. Libbey & Co
April 28, 1915

VINDICATION.

—o—

The reputation of a single individual is of but little consequence to society; but if the character of one man is permitted to be sworn away in our courts of law, by perjured witnesses, the practice may become as common here, as assassination is in other countries. So far, therefore, all are interested in the fair protection of the character of every individual, in order to insure the protection of their own. You punish a thief, though he steals the property of your worst enemy. Should you do any less, when perjured witnesses rob a man of his good name, whether you like or dislike him?

I am sensible that it will seem quite out of date for me to call the attention of the public now, to the above trial, which took place in July, 1833. It is an easier matter to destroy character by infamous slander, than to restore it afterwards by plain truth. But it ought never to be too late to do justice in any case where character has been sworn away by perjured witnesses. I am now in no way connected with the public, either as an editor or lecturer, and if I have suffered in the opinion of any man by the result of the trial of Moore & Sevey, I ask his attention to the facts I am going to place before him.

I belonged to the same lodge in Batavia, N. Y. to which William Morgan belonged, when he was abducted by Freemasons, in 1826. I was the first to disclose the plans laid in the lodge for his and Miller's abduction; and to say that this made me enemies who have never forgiven me, but have pursued me and my family with bitter hostilities, from that time to this, is only to say what every candid man must see would be the result of my relation to the masons of Batavia, with whom the conspiracy against Morgan originated. I lost my business and property in Batavia, in consequence of the excitement growing out of this transaction, and subsequently came to Boston. Here my

character was again and again assailed by the masonic press, until I was resolved to resort to the laws of my country for protection. An indictment was preferred against Moore & Sevey, editors of the Masonic Mirror.

The libel asserted that the character of Greene was as black and as infamous as moral depravity could make it. The only specific charge it contained was, that I had obtained the benefit of the insolvent act (seventeen years before, in Pembroke, N. Y.)—had put my property into the possession of a friend, and afterwards claimed it, after I had made oath that I had none.

The trial was had before Judge Thacher, of the Municipal Court, at a time when masonic prejudice ran so high in this city, as to render it difficult for an Anti-mason to get a fair trial. No bill of particulars of what the defendant intended to prove in justification of the libel was given, and my whole life was laid open to investigation, and I was required, at a moment's notice, to be prepared to answer charges brought by witnesses, relating to transactions, alleged to have taken place four hundred miles off, and seventeen years before, without having the means to procure the attendance of witnesses to disprove the testimony brought against me. The Supreme Court have since decided that the party indicted for libel, who alleges the truth in justification, is bound to give notice of the specific facts he intends to prove, in order to give the party libelled opportunity to meet the charges. Had this been done in my case, a different result must have followed that trial. I not only labored under these disadvantages, but, by a new principle, wholly unauthorised from any precedent, my wife, who would have disproved the statements of the principal witness against me, was excluded by the Judge, from giving her testimony; a decision from which there was no appeal. His honor, the Judge, I am well satisfied, has since been convinced that the testimony of Mrs. Greene ought to have been received, as I was not a party, in law, to the suit.

The only witnesses who testified to any facts justifying the libel, were Johnson Goodwill, Frederick Follett and Almon Stevens, three masons from Bata-

via, and belonging to the Lodge from which I had seceded, and afterwards was expelled for disclosing masonic secrets, at the time of the abduction of William Morgan, in which infamous transaction, at its very commencement, Johnson Goodwill was actively engaged; as was fully proved, by cross examination and other facts shown in this trial.

Another witness, Asahel Adams, of Methuen, a mason, attempted to charge profanity upon me, in a visit to that place. There was no opportunity to send for witnesses to disprove Adams, whose testimony was not anticipated, but it has since been entirely put down by the published declarations of Stephen Barker, 2d, Justice of the Peace, and two other citizens of Methuen, who have contradicted every assertion made by Adams. That witness, I understand, did not long reside in Methuen after the trial, and his testimony excited universal disgust. We will here give the testimony of Stephen Barker, 2d, and others:—

"I, Stephen Barker, Jun. of Methuen, in the State of Massachusetts, do solemnly affirm and declare, that I have lived in Methuen since eighteen hundred and eleven; I know Samuel D. Greene, and I also know Asahel Adams, of Methuen, and have known him for about six or seven years. I saw Samuel D. Greene in Methuen, I think in September, it might be October, two years ago. I am certain it was not more than two years ago. I never knew nor heard of Samuel D. Greene being in Methuen before that time, and I am confident that this is the same time alluded to by Asahel Adams in his testimony in the case of the Commonwealth vs. Moore & Sevey, as published in the printed report of that trial, by Charles H. Locke, and published by Moore & Sevey, 1833, which testimony I have read.

The day before I saw Mr. Greene in Methuen, I heard that a man was in the place who would exhibit Freemasonry. This was told to me by a person who seemed pleased that Mr. Greene had visited Methuen. At that time I had never heard of Mr. Greene. The next day after I heard this, Mr. Greene called upon me at my house. I was at that time Justice of the Peace, and still hold that office. Mr. Greene asked

me to subscribe for his paper.—He said it was a religious paper and an anti-masonic paper, and opposed to the Masonic Institution—that it gave an account of the transactions relating to Freemasonry, which could not be found in any but anti-masonic papers, other papers being more or less under masonic influence. I declined taking the paper, having as many papers as I then wished to subscribe for. Mr. Greene stated to me that he wished to stay in town a few days to get subscribers to his paper, for which purpose he had come to Methuen. I inquired if he was the person I had heard of the day before, as being in the village, who exhibited Masonry. He said he supposed he was the person referred to, but he did not exhibit Masonry. He sometimes gave lectures upon Masonry, but he said nothing then about intending to give a lecture. He then informed me of the treatment he had received at the tavern in the village.—There was but one tavern in the village, kept by William Dole, as I understand. He (Mr. Greene) told me that a crowd had assembled at the tavern the night before, and had seen him and used menacing and abusive language; that they had used profane language, and that one man came in with a bundle of raw hides under his arm. He said he asked the landlord to protect him, but he declined giving him any assurance that he would protect him. On account of this treatment, he wished to find some other place to board for a few days, and as there was no other public house in the place, he asked if I would take him to board. I was reluctant to do so, not wishing to have the trouble of any addition to my family, but feeling unwilling that a traveller and a stranger should not be able to find protection and good treatment in the village, I consented to have him board at my house, during his stay in Methuen. My only reason for taking Mr. Greene to board, was the treatment he had received at the tavern, and because I wished that strangers who came to the village should be well treated. Mr. Greene remained at my house about a fortnight. The conduct of Mr. Greene in my family, during that time, was very respectable, and his language and deportment correct, and in all respects, such as became a Christian professor. His deportment and conversa-

tion made an impression upon all the family, highly favorable to his character. While there he was called upon by many respectable citizens of the town, and others who came there were introduced to him. Several of them who called at my house requested him to deliver a lecture on Masonry. I also heard him requested by many persons at other times. He agreed to do so, if they could procure a meeting house, but told them the masons would oppose it. Requests were urgently made for him to deliver lectures in different parts of the town, which he declined.

The lower meeting house was finally procured. I saw the paper, applying for the use of the meeting house, for Mr. Greene to deliver a lecture on Antimasonry and Masonry. It was signed by a number of respectable men, whom I believe to have been proprietors in the meeting house. The only objection I ever heard of, to Mr. Greene delivering the lecture in the meeting house, was from a Mr. Cobb, one of the assessors of the parish. I believe he was not a proprietor in the meeting house at that time. Mr. Greene delivered a lecture in the meeting house. I attended, and saw and heard nothing improper, or like confusion, during the services. All was conducted in good order, and the audience were very attentive. Mr. Greene, during his stay in Methuen, also delivered two other lectures. One of them in the upper meeting house, which was very fully attended, and was very well conducted. I heard a large number express their gratification at what they heard from Mr. Greene, and there was no disorder or confusion, which I saw or heard. The lecture, so far as I knew or heard, gave very great satisfaction to those who heard it.— I have heard many speak in the highest terms of approbation of Mr. Greene's lectures at Methuen, and I never heard, as I recollect, any who attended them disapprove of them. Mr. Greene was solicited to stay longer and deliver more lectures, but he told them he could not remain longer in town. Mr. Samuel Sawyer stated to me, that he was at first rather opposed to Mr. Greene's going into the upper meeting house, but after he heard Mr. Greene he had changed his mind, and he had come to my house to invite Mr. Greene to go and lecture there again. He conversed

with Mr. Greene at that time upon the subject. Mr. Greene declined going, because he could not remain longer in town.

The only persons I heard speak, with much opposition to Mr. Greene's delivering lectures, was Mr. Asahel Adams and Capt. Joseph Griffin, both, as I understand, masons. I only heard Capt. Griffin object to Mr. Greene's going into the upper meeting house. Some others said if they could not have the meeting house for that occasion, they would not go into it on any other. Mr. Asahel Adams I heard speak in strong language against Mr. Greene. He represented him a mean character, and that no one ought to go after him to countenance him. Two or three days after Mr. Greene came to stay at my house, I had a conversation with Asahel Adams, at the Tavern, where Mr. Greene had put up, before he came to my house. Mr. Adams found fault with me for taking Mr. Greene into my house, and for acting as an Anti-mason, which was not true at that time, for I was then rather indifferent to the subject. He also accused me of doing some things to promote Anti-masonry, which were wholly unfounded in fact, and I so told him. I told Mr. Adams, that the reason of my taking Mr. Greene into my house, was the treatment he had received at that Tavern, and I alluded particularly to the profane language, used to Mr. Greene there, as he had told me, and the bad treatment he had received. When I alluded to profane language used towards Mr. Greene, Mr. Adams did not say that Mr. Greene had made use of any profane language whatever, nor did he say any thing about Mr. Greene flourishing his cane and threatening to fix any body. He pointed him out as a mean person, but I do not recollect his stating wherein he was so, except going about with his Anti-masonry. I never heard that Mr. Greene used profane language at the tavern, or threatened any body, until I saw it stated in the testimony of Asahel Adams, in the trial of Moore & Sevey. I stated what I understood Mr. Greene's treatment at the tavern was, distinctly, that it might be heard, and no one denied it, in my hearing. I think the landlord was present, but am not certain.

When Mr. Greene left Methuen, he left with me

bills against all his subscribers in Methuen from the time they began to take his paper. There were, I think, thirty-eight to forty in number. Before the first six months had expired I talked with nearly every one of the subscribers. Some had paid in advance, some paid their bills to me, and others said they had paid Mr. Greene. Not one of them to my knowledge ever hinted that they had been deceived by finding it an anti-masonic paper, when they expected it would be a religious paper. One subscriber said he liked the Anti-masonry but not the religious part. Two declined taking it longer, because they could not afford it well. There were two others who did not like the paper, for some reason, but approved of its Anti-masonry. I never heard any one object to the paper on account of its Anti-masonry ; I never knew of any person refusing to take the paper from the Post Office on account of its being an anti-masonic paper. There was a misunderstanding with some of the subscribers in the upper part of the town, who said they did not expect to have to pay the postage. Two or three, I believe, declined continuing the paper on that account. I acted as the agent for the paper in Methuen, and that fact I believe, was known to the Postmaster. I think if there had been any refusal to take the paper from the Post Office, I should have been informed of it. I do not recollect of his ever informing me of but one paper not being taken from the Post Office. STEPHEN BARKER, 2d.

August 13th, 1833.

I, Asa Palmer, 2d, of Methuen, in the State of Massachusetts, do solemnly affirm and declare, that I boarded at Mr. Dole's tavern in Methuen, in September, 1831, two years ago next month. Samuel D. Greene came there, as I understood, to put up, on Saturday, in said September, and I saw him at the tavern on Sunday morning. On Monday evening following, about half past nine, I was in the bar-room of the tavern. Asahel Adams, Mr. Johnson, Capt. Whitney, and some others were present. Mr. Greene was present, walking the room. He had no cane. Johnson and Whitney, whom I understood to be masons, were blackguarding Mr. Greene, and telling what ought

to be done, and what would be done to him, if he was not careful how he managed. They used expressions like these to him:—that he ought to be kicked, and ought to be rode out of town. I think Whitney used some profane language towards Greene. They did not argue or reason with him, but appeared to use blackguard, and such language as I have stated. The cause of what they said to him, was on account of his being an Anti-mason, and going about in the way he did. There was nobody in the room who took Mr. Greene's part. Some, there, said nothing on either side. I said nothing. Those who opposed Mr. Greene, were running him about his Anti-masonry. They appeared to be somewhat angry most of the time. Johnson was quite so. Mr. Adams did not appear to have so much to say as some others. Mr. Greene appeared to be in good humour, and tried to reason with them. I heard him use no hard words, and heard him say nothing like damn 'em, I'll fix them, or any profane language of any kind. During his stay at Methuen at that time, and after this conversation, I heard Mr. Greene in conversations with Masons, who were very warm, but I never heard him use any profane language, or angry expressions.

On Monday evening, before referred to, I remained in the bar-room about half an hour, when I went out, and left Mr. Greene there, with all the persons, I think, who were there when I went in. The Sunday before, I had taken a new boarding-house, in the village, and I did not lodge at Mr. Dole's tavern on Monday night. During Mr. Greene's stay in Methuen, I heard none but Masons and persons who were in the employ of Masons, or influenced by them, as I supposed, who opposed Mr. Greene, or spoke against his coming there. I have heard more speak in favor of Mr. Greene's being there, and delivering lectures, than I heard speak against him. Many, I know, were pleased to have him there—I mean, to take the whole town together, as nigh as I can judge.

I saw Mr. Greene nearly every day while he was in Methuen, and I never saw in him, or heard from him, any thing improper, or unbecoming a man of good character. I heard Mr. Greene frequently ask persons to subscribe for his paper, and tell them it was

an anti-masonic paper. I never heard him mention his paper to any one without describing it as an anti-masonic paper.

I was present, at Mr. Dole's tavern, at the conversation between Asahel Adams and Stephen Barker, Jun., about Mr. Barker's taking Mr. Greene to board in his house. Mr. Adams appeared to be angry, and reprimanded Mr. Barker for taking Mr. Greene into his house. Mr. Barker told him, the reason he took Mr. Greene into his house, was the bad treatment he had received at the tavern. Mr. Adams did not deny any of the treatment towards Mr. Greene. He did not mention that Greene used profane language. I have since heard Mr. Adams speak about Mr. Greene, but never heard him say that he (Greene) used profane or threatening language, at Methuen, nor did I ever hear of Mr. Greene saying "damn 'em, I'll fix 'em," or swinging his cane, or using threatening language, until I read it in the testimony of Asahel Adams, as published in the trial of Moore & Sevey. I have lived in Methuen since 1831, with the exception of about five weeks. I was not an Anti-mason at the time referred to, nor do I profess to be one now; I have no part in the controversy.

There is a victualling cellar in Methuen village, which was kept by Mr. Bean, in 1831. It was much better conducted than such places usually are, and I consider it as respectable as the bar-room of the tavern, or any place where ardent spirits are sold. It was so considered in the village, and was visited by as respectable people as the bar-room of the tavern was. I saw Mr. Greene in there once, while he was at Methuen. He was trying to get subscribers to his paper, and that appeared to be his only business there. ASA PALMER, 2d.

I, John White, of Methuen, do solemnly declare and affirm, that I am knowing to Samuel D. Greene's visiting Methuen, in 1831, about two years ago, I should think in September. He remained there sometime. I attended one of his lectures, at the lower meeting-house. It was conducted with propriety, and I saw no disturbance. The audience were attentive. I had heard, before the meeting, that they calculated

to mob Mr. Greene that night, and I saw some Masons, as I understood, around the meeting-house. No interruption was offered, and all that I heard say any thing about it, were satisfied with Mr. Greene's lectures. I met with Mr. Greene frequently, while he was in Methuen, and I neither saw nor heard any thing from him unbecoming a man of good character.

There was a victualling cellar in the place at that time, which was kept by Mr. Bean. It was licensed as a victualling cellar, and was better conducted than such places usually are. I considered this cellar as respectable as the bar-room of the tavern in the village, or any place where ardent spirits are sold, and I never heard any thing to the contrary. I never saw S. D. Greene go in there. JOHN WHITE.

I, William H. White, of Methuen, do solemnly affirm and declare, that I have resided in Methuen for ten years past. I saw Samuel D. Greene in Methuen, in September, 1831, about two years ago. He was known there as an Anti-mason, and was procuring subscribers for his paper. He called at the shop where I worked, and got one subscriber. He stated that his paper was a religious paper, and an anti-masonic paper, and would bring facts to light on the subject of Masonry. When the paper was received afterwards, it was according to what he had represented it, and was taken in the shop. I saw Mr. Greene frequently, almost every day while he staid in Methuen, after he went to Mr. Barker's, and conversed with him a number of times. I never heard any improper language from him, and never saw or heard any thing in him unbecoming a man of good character. From all I could learn, I think a great many people were pleased with having Mr. Greene there, and hearing his lectures. I did not attend any of his lectures, and was not an Anti-mason. There was a victualling cellar in Methuen at the time Mr. Greene was there, and it was considered as respectable as the bar-room of the tavern, or any place where ardent spirits are sold. Respectable people visited there.

WILLIAM H. WHITE."

To such length was the attempt to destroy my character carried, in this trial, that witnesses were allowed to be examined to facts they alledged had occurred *since* the indictment, in order to prove that the libel was true; a proceeding without parallel in any case on record.

The only witness on whose testimony a single charge in the libel was proved, was JOHNSON GOODWILL. To show this fact distinctly, I quote from the charge of his Honor, Judge Thacher, as published at the time, and approved by him as correct.

Extracts from Judge Thacher's Charge.

Judge Thacher here reviewed the most material points in the evidence on both sides. He said that for proof of the charge of perjury, which was the most material allegation in the alleged libel, the defendants relied upon the alledged insolvency of Mr. Greene at Batavia, in 1817, and the concealment of between 200 and 300, or 300 and 400 dollars worth of property, as testified to by Johnson Goodwill. He says that Mr. Greene told him, in 1817, that he had got his discharge, and wanted him to assist him to get his property out of the hands of the Richardsons, with whom it had been placed, previous to his application for the benefit of the insolvent laws.

Now the fraudulent concealment of the property in the hands of the Richardsons, (without which there could not have been any act of perjury,) *stands alone upon Goodwill's testimony.* The truth of that charge depends entirely upon his credibility, for Greene positively denies any such transaction. He has been on the stand, and is a perfectly competent witness. He states that in 1817 he did apply for the benefit of the act, but did not complete it, and that he made out a true inventory of his property at that time. He thinks that Mr. Goodwill either states what he knows is not true, or that he may have confounded the transaction he relates with a subsequent one which Mr. Greene states, and that is, that in 1820, he (Greene) having occupied a tavern house, belonging to or built by the Richardsons, which was afterwards taken by a Mr. Weston, he (Greene) leased his furniture to Weston, in whose possession it was distrained by Weston's

landlord for rent, as is authorised by the laws of New York.

The only testimony which goes at all to strengthen Goodwill's testimony on this point, is that of Mr. Stevens, who says he saw the insolvency papers of Greene in the office of the Court, in 1819, but he did not examine them, and knows nothing of their contents.—This charge, therefore, depends entirely upon the degree of credit you give to Mr. Johnson Goodwill. Mr. Greene denies it, Mr. Goodwill affirms it, and one or the other has stated to you deliberately, on his oath, what is not true.

Goodwill, Follett, Stevens and Pigsley, four witnesses from Batavia, say that Greene there was known as a thief, a liar, and a perjured man. The grounds on which the charge of perjury rest, have been already stated. To substantiate the charge of stealing, you have the testimony respecting a sheep, which Greene was charged with taking in 1822. It appeared, however, upon the cross examination of Goodwill, that Greene commenced a prosecution for that charge in 1822, that the person who made it, retracted it publicly, and that Johnson Goodwill was present, and wrote and attested the certificate of Greene's innocense, which has been produced here in Court, and acknowledged by the witness to have been written and attested by him.

Now, gentlemen, if in consequence of his secession from the society of Masons, of which he was a voluntary member, and from which by the laws of the land he had a right to secede, and of his renunciation of Freemasonry, S. D. Greene incurred the mortal hatred of the members of the Lodge to which he had belonged; and it is from them only, that is derived the testimony which is relied on to prove, that he was a thief, a liar, and a perjured man—and in fact, "that his character was as black and as infamous as moral depravity could make it;" then you are to consider, whether you are to receive the relations of individuals, testifying under such feelings, without great distrust.

You are bound to draw the truth as far as possible, from undefiled fountains, and you will be careful to weigh well the testimony before you will stigmatize

an individual as a perjured man, and as black and infamous as moral depravity can make him, on the testimony of individuals, whom you believe hate him with a perfect hatred.

He is a competent witness, and he has stated to you on the stand, the manner of his life and conversation up to the period when he renounced Freemasonry.

Before he left Batavia, he asked an investigation of the Church there, of which he was a member.—And after due time given for inquiry, and after an investigation of ten days, it resulted in his entire acquittal; and he brought with him from that Church a letter to the Park Street Church in this city, recommending him to their communion and fellowship. And after a protracted investigation of all the objections to his admission to that Church, he was, in July, 1831, admitted with one dissenting vote only.

I think, gentlemen, that weight ought to be attached to the proceedings of the Church in Batavia. If Mr. Greene were then guilty of any of these charges, there was the place and the time to have convicted him of them. They are only allusions now, to former acts of his life; but if they were well founded, that was the time to have proved them, and to have deprived him of the recommendation of good character, which he derived from being a member of a Christian Church. It appears, however, that he was then fully acquitted of these charges.

This shows, conclusively, that without the testimony of Johnson Goodwill, Moore & Sevey, the defendants, must have been convicted of a libel.

I now proceed to show what credit Johnson Goodwill's testimony, in that cause, is entitled to. When Goodwill was first called as a witness, a suggestion was made, that some evidence might be found in Rhode Island to render him incompetent, but the nature of the evidence was not then known. Subsequently, that evidence was procured, but did not amount to testimony that would go before a jury. The counsel for Moore and Sevey, however, on seeing the paper, agreed to make no use of the challenge against the witness, and the other side agreed not to allude to the paper. Subsequent to the trial, another

affidavit was made of the transaction in Rhode Island, which is here appended, for the reader to draw his own inference. Johnson Goodwill testified that he resided in Stafford, Connecticut, in 1810 and 11, and removed thence to New York in 1815. He must, therefore, have belonged to Connecticut in 1814.

AFFIDAVIT.

John B. Snow, of the city and county of Providence, in the State of Rhode Island, on oath saith, that he was a Justice of the Peace in the then town, now city of Providence, from May, 1811, till May, 1816, during which time, and he thinks in February, 1814, he issued a warrant, he believes upon the complaint of John Mowry Potter, now deceased, against a person by the name of Goodill or Goodwill, then in said Providence, and said to belong to Connecticut, for passing counterfeit bank bills on the New York State Bank, in Albany, and another bank of that State, knowing them to be counterfeit. The warrant was delivered to an officer, and Goodwill was brought before me for examination. He admitted that he passed the bills, which were pronounced counterfeit by good judges, but he denied all knowledge of their being counterfeit, and said he could prove that he came by them fairly in the due course of business, and went with the officer to procure such testimony, which was the only time that this deponent ever saw him to know his name. This deponent cannot state his given name with any degree of positiveness; but since he has seen the name of "Johnson Goodwill" in the Boston newspapers, who was a witness on the Indictment vs. Moore and Sevey, for a libel on S. D. Greene, he has a faint recollection that "Johnson" was his given name. It is so long since the transaction took place, that it is impossible to recollect why the officer did not return with him, and whether he escaped from the officer or settled the business with the complainant, this deponent cannot distinctly remember. By a reference to the books of this deponent, he finds a charge made against John Sessions, Jun., the officer, in these words:—"1814, Feb. 15—To my fees on complaint J. M. Potter vs. Goodwill, $2;"—but he has no recollection why he made the

charge to Sessions. The counterfeit bills, amounting to fifty or sixty dollars, were left unclaimed by any one, and this deponent understood Goodwill and his two companions left the State immediately, one of whom went by the name of Mills.

JOHN B. SNOW.

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.

Providence, ss.—On the 5th of August, A. D. 1833, personally appeared the within named affiant and solemnly declared that the facts contained in the within statement by him signed, were just and true.

Before me,

GEORGE F. MANN, *Notary Public.*

The officer who had Goodwill in charge, I have been informed, was a mason. He has since removed out of the United States.

In a letter to my counsel, dated Batavia, Sept. 2, 1833, P. L. Tracy, Esq. (who was the attorney employed by me in my business in 1817) says: "The statement in the report of the Lewiston Committee implicating Johnson Goodwill, [in the abduction of Morgan] never was denied here, as I ever heard; and I *never heard* it charged upon Mr. Greene that he secreted property in the hands of the Richardsons, until Johnson Goodwill's testimony came out."

The following statement is from a still higher legal source, dated July 29th, 1833:—

"Dear Sir: In reading your account of the trial of an indictment for a libel on Samuel D. Greene, I was surprised to observe that Johnson Goodwill was called as a witness, and that the defence depended on him. It is but an act of mere justice to Mr. Greene to inform you, that the character of Goodwill is rather worse, in every respect, than that of any witness who has been called in support of Masons and Masonry. According to the information I have had of him for years, he is a professed gambler! Indeed, gambling has been, for a number of years, his only means of livelihood, and I should presume his character for truth might be very easily impeached."

[Extracts from Mr. Locke's Report of Moore & Sevey's Trial.]

"JULIUS A. NOBLE. Goodwill, when I resided in Genesee county, was a constable. I was not particularly acquainted with him. I can swear that he was known as a notorious gambler throughout the county. He had that name.

SAMUEL D. GREENE. Cross examined: Goodwill was not in any particular business from 1816 to 1819. He would gamble some and drink some.—Did no other business."

[Extracts from the Niagara Courier, published at Lockport, N. Y. September 25th, 1833.]

Some time since, in noticing a trial in Boston, we stated that one Johnson Goodwill, who testified there, appeared to be a "standing witness of Masonry," inasmuch as he once testified here in one of the conspiracy trials, and told a long tale which few believed. The Attica Republican first, and afterwards the Batavia Times, contradicted this statement, and denied that Johnson Goodwill was ever examined as a witness here. We repeated the assertion, naming the time and the particular trial on which Goodwill was examined. This assertion is again denied in the following terms by the Batavia paper.

"We pronounce his assertion false, and are prepared to prove it so. We do say that Col. G. was never sworn in the trial in question nor in any other, of the like nature, in Niagara County."

To set this matter straight, we refer the reader to the following correspondence:

COURIER OFFICE, Sept. 23d, 1833.

Dear Sir—As you was one of the counsel for the People on the trial of Jeremiah Brown and Solomon C. Wright for conspiracy, &c. I should be pleased if you would examine your minutes, and inform me whether one Johnson Goodwill of Genesee county, was examined as a witness during said trial.

Yours, &c. M. CADWALLADER.

E. RANSOM, jun. Esq.

To this note we received the following answer:

LOCKPORT, Sept. 23, 1833.

Dear Sir—To the inquiry contained in your note of this date, I answer, that Johnson Goodwill, then of

Batavia, Genesee county, was sworn and examined as a witness on the trial of Jeremiah Brown and Solomon C. Wright for conspiracy, &c., on the behalf of the defendants, in June, 1830. Being then District Attorney of this county, I assisted the Special Counsel on the trial, and took with great care and particularity, and now have, minutes of Mr. Goodwill's testimony on that occasion.

Yours, &c. ELIAS RANSOM, Jun.

M. CADWALLADER, Esq.

Whether the Johnson Goodwill whom we refer to is a colonel or corporal, or whether there is more than one Simon Pure of this name or not, or whether he spells his name as we did or not, we neither know nor care. We found it stated in the Boston Free Press, that one Johnson Goodwill of Genesee county, was examined as a witness on a masonic trial there. We stated that he was examined as a witness here, in a Morgan trial. This has been denied. We refer to the correspondence above to prove our assertion.

Upon these statements alone, I think I might have left my case safely, to the hands of the public, and I doubt not they would have been conclusive with any honest jury, could I have given them in evidence on the trial. But I did not mean to rest satisfied here. Goodwill said in his testimony, on being cross-examined, that one of the Richardsons, he understood was dead, and the other in Ohio.—My counsel remarked, at the time, that all the persons Goodwill referred to, to corroborate his testimony, seemed to be either dead or gone away.—Goodwill having named Ohio, I commenced writing there, soon after the trial, to ascertain, if possible, whether either of the Richardsons were living.—After several attempts and much delay, I learned that James Richardson was trading on the Ohio, and resided in Cincinnati. One of my letters reached him just as he was starting for New Orleans, and he wrote me word I should hear further from him, when he got back. Some months passed before his return, and then I wrote him as follows, and received his deposition in return, which will dispose of all the veracity there is left of Johnson Goodwill, and, I trust, relieve me from his slanders in the mind of every honest man.

Boston, Feb. 12, 1834.

Dear Sir: I received your kind and courteous letter of the 27th of December, 1833, in answer to mine of the 7th of the same month, on the 15th of January last. Agreeable to your request, I now forward you another communication. And here I will take the liberty to express my unfeigned thankfulness for your immediate reply; for the decision of character you evince in prescribing measures to relieve a fellow-citizen from wrong imputations, and for your willingness to detect a villain of perjury, and expose him to infamy. You mentioned "that it would be necessary for me to apply for an order of Court; as, unless I did so, your testimony before a Court would be of no effect." I would say in reply, there is no trial now pending before a Court. Johnson Goodwill gave his testimony in the following case: Commonwealth vs. Moore & Sevey for a libel on Samuel D. Greene, in the Municipal Court of Boston, July term, 1833. I wish simply to show my friends and foes if I can truly do so by your affidavit, that Goodwill's testimony in that case was wholly and totally false, and without the least foundation. I shall therefore send you Johnson Goodwill's testimony as taken down on that trial, which is as follows:

"Greene in 1817, (meaning Samuel D. Greene) had placed property in the hands of James and John Richardson, previous to his taking the benefit of the insolvent act, and which they promised to return to him after he had got his discharge. The sum was either two or three, or three or four hundred dollars, witness cannot be certain which. Witness said the property in Richardson's hands consisted of furniture, beds, and bedding, and other articles. Greene had called upon the Richardsons' for the property, and they refused to give it to him; he requested my assistance to obtain it. It was soon after Greene got his discharge I talked with him about it, and told him he could not collect it by law, as he had lately made an inventory of his effects. Greene said it was customary or usual for gentlemen who took the benefit, to have some property put away. Cautioned him about doing or saying much about it. Saw James Richardson a few

days after at Greene's request. Introduced the subject to Richardson, and afterwards told Greene that Richardson treated it rather lightly, and said if Greene will be silent on the subject, I will," &c.

Now what I request of you is, that you will make oath before a notary public or Justice of the Peace, whether Goodwill's testimony be true or false.—Please say whether there was ever any transaction between you, your brother and myself, to your knowledge, of that nature or character, which would warrant, in the least particular, such testimony as was given by the said Johnson Goodwill in the above case. In order that there may be no mistake in the persons alluded to by Goodwill, I wish you to state distinctly whether there was any other Richardsons, two brothers, of your names, (James and John) living in Pembroke, N. Y. in 1816 or 1817, but yourselves, and whether you and your brother built and lived in the brick house in the north part of Pembroke; what time you removed to the West, and what particular acquaintance you had with me, and where I lived when you left New York. Please attach a certificate of the county clerk that the officer before whom you testify, is an officer appointed by the government of your State, and transcribe this letter and affix it to your affidavit, and state that upon the authority of this letter you made the above affidavit.

Yours truly,

SAMUEL D. GREENE.

Mr. James Richardson.

Personally appeared before me, Josiah Fobes, one of the Justices of the Peace, in and for the city of Cincinnati, in the State of Ohio, James Richardson, and being duly sworn, doth upon his oath say, that he was acquainted with Samuel D. Greene of the Town of Pembroke, in the State of New York, and as he believes the writer of a letter addressed to the said Richardson at Cincinnati, dated February 12th, 1834. The said Richardson further states that he lived in the town of Pembroke, in the state of New York, in 1816 and 1817, and built a brick house in the North part of Pembroke and lived in it, and kept a public house, and that his brother, John Richardson was

then a partner of the said James Richardson; and he further states that he never knew any other James & John Richardson, brothers, in that Town or neighboring County. And the said James Richardson further states that Samuel D. Greene did occupy the above mentioned house in 1817 as a public Inn.

In 1818, the said Richardson says he left for the State of Ohio; and the said James Richardson further states that during the acquaintance with Samuel D. Greene, in the year 1816 and 1817, that THERE WAS NO TRANSACTION OF ANY KIND BETWEEN THEM TO THE AMOUNT OF TEN DOLLARS, to the best of his knowledge, *and that every thing stated in the letter hereunto annexed as being the testimony of Johnson Goodwill in the case of Commonwealth vs. Moore and Sevey for a malicious libel on Samuel D. Greene,* IS A PALPABLE AND PREMEDITATED LIE, WITHOUT THE LEAST SHADOW OF TRUTH OR FOUNDATION.

JAMES RICHARDSON.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 17th of March, 1834. JOSIAH FOBES, Just. Peace.

THE STATE OF OHIO.

Hamilton County, ss.

I, Daniel Gano, Clerk pro tem, of the Court of Common Pleas of the State of Ohio, in and for said County, do hereby certify, that Josiah Fobes, Esq. before whom the foregoing oath was administered, and whose certificate thereof is attached, is now and was at the time of administering said oath, an acting Justice of the Peace, in and for said County, duly elected, commissioned and sworn into office, and fully authorized to administer oaths, &c. and to all his acts as such full faith is due and ought to be given.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court at Cincinnati, this 17th day of March, 1834..

[L. S.] DANIEL GANO, Clerk P. T.

I now appeal to friends and foes to say, if I have not proved Johnson Goodwill to be any thing but a man of truth! Judge Thacher, in his charge, admits that there is nothing proved against me, unless Johnson Goodwill has told the truth, and he says that eith-

er Goodwill or Greene has stated deliberately on his oath, what is not true. I ask of any honest man, I ask of the Judge and the Jury who acquitted my defamers, does not this deposition of Mr. James Richardson prove, beyond all question, that Johnson Goodwill did state, deliberately, on his oath, what was not true? And if this be so, I ask men who value their own characters, and would not like to have them sworn away by perjured witnesses; I ask them whether I and my wife and children ought to be longer made to suffer reproach and injustice, by the malignant villanies of such a man as Johnson Goodwill is proved to be. I ask no compassion, but I ask justice and common candor. Since the trial by which my masonic persecutors meant to destroy me and my family, I have been in the employ of a gentleman where I have been able to earn a living. Masonic persecution has followed me there. For months I could not enter the pew, I and my family occupied in Mr. Fairchild's Church, without finding slips of paper placed there, as I believe by masonic vengeance, to insult the feelings of my wife and daughters. Incessant attempts have also been made to induce my employer to dismiss me, because I was an Anti-mason, but he has generously scorned all the attempts of the masons to destroy me. I now ask of my fellow citizens *justice*. Let them read this candidly, and then give me the benefit of the golden rule, is all I ask—"Do unto others as you would that others should do unto you."

SAMUEL D. GREENE.

APPENDIX.

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In my appeal to the public, I think I have fully shown that Johnson Goodwill, the only witness whose testimony, Judge Thatcher declared, amounted to any thing against me, is not entitled to be believed on his oath, as a man of truth and veracity. But what motive had he, to travel four hundred miles from Batavia to Boston, as a voluntary witness, to swear away my character? The answer will be found in the fact I now mean to prove, and by Goodwill's own testimony, that he, Johnson Goodwill, was one of the very foremost of the MORGAN CONSPIRATORS.

The first document to prove this, is one that has never been disputed or denied. It is the report of the Lewiston Committee on the Morgan outrage, drawn up with great care, upon a full investigation of the facts, soon after that outrage, and signed by thirty-eight delegates, from the towns and counties where the outrage happened. Among the signers, are several from the town of Batavia, where Johnson Goodwill lived; men of the highest integrity and character.

"On the 25th day of July, 1826, Morgan was committed to the custody of the sheriff of the county of Genesee, at the suit of Nathan Follett, (brother to Frederick Follett) and gave bail for the jail limits. He had been sued sometime before in the Supreme Court, for a considerable debt due to a gentleman of Rochester, and two of his then friends had become his special bail, viz: Nathan Loring and Orange Allen. During the month of August, his family and himself boarded at Mr. Stewart's, in the crowded part of the village; but for the purpose of security and to avoid interruption, he himself spent most of his time in the upper room of Mr. John David's house, some distance from his lodgings, and separated by the Tonawanda creek, from the business part of the town. On the 19th of August, 1826, *Johnson Goodwill*, Kelsey

Stone, and John Wilson, residents of the village, but holding no official station, accompanied by one Daniel H. Dana, a constable, residing at Pembroke, about fourteen miles distant from the village of Batavia, went together to Davids house. They first inquired for Davids and Towsly, the two men who were heads of the two families that occupied the house, and being told they were not at home, without asking for Morgan, or giving any previous notice to the families, they rushed at once up the stairway into the room where he was writing, seized his person and all the papers which he was then busied in arranging for the press, and took him at once to the county jail, without allowing him time or opportunity to procure other bail. We pretend not to state how far the sheriff was a party in this transaction. He was observed to be in the company of the four, and went with them to the bridge, where he appeared to stay on the look out until they returned with Morgan, when he accompanied them to jail. Morgan remained in close confinement from Saturday afternoon until Monday morning, during which time he received numerous visits from the persons who had interested themselves in the suppression of the book.

As soon as Morgan's imprisonment was known to his friends, which was not more than an hour after his capture, three of them made diligent search for the sheriff in all the usual places of his resort, for the purpose of offering themselves as bail for him. They went three times to his dwelling house, without being able to see him; they inquired at the jail and sheriff's office for the jailer; neither sheriff or jailer was to be *found* until after 12 o'clock, at night, when, of course, it was too late to procure his release until Monday. On the evening of the same Saturday, about sunset the same *Johnson Goodwill*, and Daniel H. Dana, with Thomas McCully, repaired to the dwelling house of Mr. Stewart, where Morgan boarded. They alledged, and we presume they had an execution, in which McCully was plaintiff, and Morgan defendant. McCully inquired of Mrs. Morgan, whether Morgan had any property, who answered, "you know we have none; we have got nothing since we came from your house." To a simular inquiry addressed

to Miss Stewart, she answered, "she knew of none, but they lodged in an upper room." *Goodwill* and Dana passed into the chamber, leaving McCully below, and proceeded to rumage, without permission or ceremony, among the trunks, boxes, drawers, and every other place where it was probable that papers could be found; they examined such letters as they found, and seized a small trunk of Morgan's, which had a few papers in it, saying they would examine, and if they were of consequence to Morgan they would return them. While *Goodwill* and Dana were thus employed above stairs, McCully observed to Miss Stewart, who remained with him below, "that he should like to find property to satisfy his execution, but that was not his principal object, he did not care so much about that, as he did to get some papers belonging to Morgan." One of the chests or trunks was found locked. It belonged to a lodger in the house. His name was mentioned, and McCully declared, "he did not wish to examine that, as he was a Royal Arch Mason."

After remaining in the house about half an hour, they departed; and as they were leaving the house, McCully or *Goodwill* said to Mrs. Morgan, "we have just conducted your husband to jail, and shall keep him there until we find his papers."

After Morgan was taken away, the sheriff of the county of Genesee avowed to Mrs. Morgan his belief that the real object of taking him away, was to coerce the surrender of his papers; and he opened a negociation with her, by the aid of Nathan Follett and George Ketchum, for the restoration of her husband, upon condition of surrendering his papers to the masons; and if any doubts could have existed in our minds of the anxiety to suppress this work, and the determination to effect it at all hazards, they would have been set at rest by the affidavits of Nicholas G. Cheesbro, and Edward Sawyer, read before the court which sentenced them."

I have been favored by my counsel in the trial of Moore and Sevey, with the notes of that part of his argument, and cross examination of Johnson Goodwill, relating to his connexion with the Morgan conspiracy, and I now append it to the foregoing, which was read to the jury in that trial.

On the cross examination of Johnson Goodwill, the question was put under the direction of the Court. Were you active in relation to the transaction connected with Morgan? If active at any time, please to say so, and in what manner.

Ans. I was not active otherwise, than I joined the party. Did not take any part until the divisions were formed, and the whole party afloat.

Question by Counsel for prosecution.

Did you take a part in the business in August 1826?

Goodwill. I suppose the gentleman has reference to a transaction in August.

Mr. Hallett. Did you go to the house of William Morgan, in August, 1826, with one Dana and McCully, to get the papers of Morgan?

Defendant's counsel objected, and the Court here interposed and said that inquiry must not be gone into.

On Tuesday Morning, (after the examination of Goodwill) when S. D. Greene was under examination he, (Greene) testified that there was a great deal of feeling and excitement connected with the Lodge in Batavia, to which he, Morgan, and Goodwill belonged, growing out of the abduction of Morgan. That parties were formed; one was active in detecting, the other in protecting the conspirators. That he gave information of those he suspected were concerned in the affair, and it caused great excitement in the Lodge and elsewhere.

The defendant's counsel, Mr. Fletcher, here called for the *whole statement* in regard to Goodwill's connexion with the Morgan Conspiracy, alledging that the imputation was wholly false. This inquiry was just what the counsel on the other side desired, but which the Court had overruled, at the suggestion of defendant's counsel. It was now opened for a full investigation, and Greene proceeded to testify as follows:

"Mr. Goodwill was one of the earliest engaged in the Morgan affair. He went with the officer to arrest Morgan in August 1826. I saw him go, and saw him return, saw him pass over the bridge, with others, and go to the house where Morgan was boarding. After-

wards I saw Goodwill, in company with others, have papers which they said were taken from Morgan, and which related to the degrees of Masonry. He (Goodwill) was with one McCully. He was present with others who had the papers in Humphrey's Hall, where the Lodge met. Thinks it was in the Lodge. These facts in regard to Mr. Goodwill were publicly stated and published in books and Newspapers at the time and since, and never denied."

On the following day, Wednesday, Deft. counsel called Mr. Goodwill to contradict Greene's testimony, when he gave the following statement, on his examination in chief.

JOHNSON GOODWILL called again for defendants, says. "The statement Mr. Greene, made on his oath, in regard to having the papers, that I was one of the abductors of Morgan, and that I had papers relative to him, which were in my possession, is not true. I never saw, and never had any papers of Morgan, in my possession. Never saw papers to KNOW them to be his, [mark the qualification]. In August, 1826, I was deputed to affect a surrender of a bail piece, with several others. Morgan was taken on the bail piece and committed to jail. Witness (Goodwill) had no process, himself, against Morgan. He further says:

After the surrender of Morgan, I went with the constable in reference to an execution against Morgan, to Mrs. Morgan's residence. I inquired of Mrs. Morgan whether Morgan had any property to levy on.—She showed us a trunk — The officer took the trunk and carried it off. I never saw it afterwards and have no other knowledge of the transaction. It was a month previous to Morgan's being carried away from Batavia, Morgan was committed to jail on Saturday and was released on the following Monday.

Cross examined. In answer to direct questions put by Mr. Hallett, which obliged the witness, either to answer or refuse to testify, the following admissions were DRAWN OUT FROM Goodwill.—"Daniel H. Dana was with me, when I went for Morgan. He was a constable and belonged to Pembroke, which is twelve or fourteen miles from Batavia. There were two Constables in Batavia, who generally served all the

processes there McCully was also with me. Do not recollect whether McCully went into the house with me. Believe he did not. Kelsey Stone I should say was not with me then, I cant say certain as to Kelsey Stone. John Wilson went to the door, did not go in. Morgan's bail [for the debt on which he was first sued as a part of the plan of the masons to get him in their power] were Orange Allen, Nathan Loring, and another. On being asked if the other was *Follett*, he said it might have been, I think not. Allen and Loring are masons. Morgan was then at John Davids house, occupied by Davids and Towsly. I saw Davids *before I went to the house* in the street. Towsly was not at home. I found Morgan up stairs. *No one went into the chamber where Morgan was writing, but myself.* I took Morgan and surrendered him. John Wilson was with me: Is a mason. He was not an officer. I was not an officer. We went directly to the jail with Morgan, and then returned to the house where Mrs. Morgan was.

[The counsel here explained to the jury, the situation of Mr. and Mrs. Morgan, at the time. Mrs. Morgan was boarding at a house in the central part of the village, where Morgan had usually resided with his family. She had no furniture or property in the house as was well known. Morgan himself, had taken a room in an upper loft of a house occupied by two families, Davids and Towsly. This house was situated over the Tonewanda Creek, about a mile from the central part of the village. To this place Morgan had retired for security while engaged in writing his book. Goodwill first went to this place where he found Morgan and seized all his papers, and committed him to jail, from which Goodwill immediately went to the house in which Mrs. Morgan boarded.]

Goodwill further stated in his testimony on the cross examination, that after leaving Morgan in jail, he went to the house where Mrs. Morgan was, with an execution against Morgan. The execution was in favour of Thomas McCully. Whether he went with me to the house where Mrs. Morgan was; I cant tell. McCully is a mason. I saw the lady of the house.—*Question.*—What was her name? *Ans.*—I do not know. *Question.*—Was it Mrs. Stewart? *Ans.*—

Yes! She called Mrs. Morgan, who came into the room, I inquired of Mrs. Morgan, if Morgan had any property to levy on. We went into another room and Mrs. Morgan shewed a small trunk, I am positive I said nothing about the papers. It was a small sized covered trunk, about two feet, covered with leather. I did not see it opened WHILE IN THE HOUSE. The amount of the execution against Morgan, was eight or ten dollars. We carried off nothing but the trunk.

Morgan was writing when I found him up stairs at Davids and Towsly's. Did not see what he was writing. [The counsel asked if he *knew* what it was, but the question was objected to, and ruled out by the Court.] I did not see any writing desk. Morgan was writing at a table. Dana was my brother in law.—Was not a mason. Might have been an Anti-mason, for what I know. All the others with me, were masons.

Question by Mr. Hallett. Were these facts, respecting your taking Morgan, published by the Lewiston Committee, in their report, soon after they occurred, and never denied by you? Defendant's Counsel, objected to this question and the Court would not allow it to be put.

Mr. Hallett, in his argument, read to the jury the extract from the Lewiston Report given at the beginning of this appendix from Bernards Light on Masonry, page 523 and also the following extract from the Report of the abduction and murder of William Morgan, made to the U. States Convention, by Mr. Whittlesey page 2d, of proceedings of the U. S. Anti-masonic Convention, in 1830.

"In July, 1826, Morgan was arrested on a civil suit at Batavia, and gave bail. On the 19th of August, 1826, Johnson Goodwill, Kelsey Stone, and John Wilson of Batavia, all free-masons, and Daniel H. Dana, a constable of Pembroke, about 14 miles distant, on ascertaining that neither of the heads of the families in the house where Morgan resided, were at home, rushed into his room, and seized his person and all the papers which he then was engaged in arranging for the press. The arrest was made by virtue of a bail piece, and he was hurried to jail without time being given him to procure other bail. The Sheriff

was not to be found though he had been seen with the four men immediately before the arrest, and Morgan was detained in jail from Saturday until Monday morning.

"While he was so confined in jail, search was made at his lodgings by virtue of some pretended process, for the papers which Morgan had been engaged in preparing, but without success."

In commenting on this testimony to the Jury the counsel for the prosecution called their attention to the remarkable precision with which every fact, relating to Johnson Goodwill's being one of the first of the Morgan Conspirators as stated in the report of the Lewiston Committee in 1827, and before the National Convention at Philadelphia in 1830, was now confirmed in every particular by the testimony of Goodwill himself, under oath.

This was a clue to the conduct of Goodwill in coming here four hundred miles, a voluntary witness to swear down Greene. His motives in first seizing Morgan and his papers, in an obscure garret, carrying him to jail, and then going to the residence of his wife, under pretence of levying an execution for eight or ten dollars, when it was known that Morgan had no property but his Masonic papers, could not be mistaken. What had Goodwill to do with a debt of eight or ten dollars owed by Morgan? He had no interest in the debt, and was no officer to serve a process, and yet we find *him* and two others, masons, not civil officers and not even bail in the case, following up this matter with a perseverance and parade never before exhibited in the collection of a debt, or the surrender of a bail peice. Was this the object of Johnson Goodwill? If the two masons who had bailed Morgan, for the very purpose of putting him in their power, had any apprehensions of his avoiding his bail, how happened it that after Goodwill carried him to Jail on Saturday, he was enlarged by those same men on Monday, without paying the debt? Had they any less fear of his escaping on Monday than they had on Saturday, before he was dragged to prison? No, but Goodwill by getting Morgan imprisoned, could make a thorough search for the papers. He had got the *trunk*, and there was nothing more to be got, and therefore

Morgan was released on Monday, to be watched in his future movements, and finally to be kidnapped and murdered, as he was, if after this lesson of masonic vengeance, he should dare to persist in the publication of the secrets of masonry. Johnson Goodwill, the principal mover in this conspiracy, had laid his plans well, and he actually got the papers, and as the masons then supposed, all the papers of Morgan. But Morgan had taken the precaution to keep Duplicates of the papers in another place, and after he was released from Jail he renewed his work. This the masons soon discovered and it led to the tragedy of Morgan's murder, which was opened in the second act, by his abduction on the 10th of September, 1826.

Who *deputed* Johnson Goodwill for this work of committing Morgan to prison? He does not tell us. Was it the Lodge? Morgan's bail were both masons, his creditor was a mason, the Sheriff a mason, (afterwards indicted and absconded from justice.) Johnson Goodwill and his associates who volunteered in this matter, were all masons. Dana, Goodwill's brother in law, not a mason, as he says, was brought *fourteen miles* to serve an execution of eight dollars upon a man known to be without property, when there were two constables at hand, who usually served all processes of this kind in Batavia! Doubtless neither of them were masons or relatives of Johnson Goodwill. Five persons, not officers nor interested in the debt; a constable who had come fourteen miles for the purpose, and sheriff Thompon, standing on the bridge to watch the movements: and to insure the success of the conspiracy, a moment seized when Goodwill and his party knew that the two men who lived in the house where Morgan was concealed, were absent leaving none but their victim and a women to resist the design of the conspirators.

These was the circumstances attending the pretended surrender of the bail piece, and the levy of an execution for eight or ten dollars, on a man known to possess no means of payment! And how was this execution levied? The body of Morgan was fast locked in Jail, but this did not satisfy Johnson Goodwill who was so *disinterestedly* engaged in securing a *debt* in which he had no possible interest, and no right to interfere.—

He went to the house where Mrs. Morgan boarded to find property to levy on! Look at the progress of this man in this dark transaction. He goes to the house where Morgan is concealed; he alone enters the chamber where Morgan is. What transpired there, we shall never learn, for Morgan is dead, and Goodwill will be silent. The Masonic threats of terror and of vengeance with which Goodwill assailed his intended victim, as he seized him and his papers, are now known only to that man and to Omniscience. But we can imagine them from the spirit he has shown here in pursuit of another victim to masonic vengeance, Samuel D. Greene. He found Morgan *writing*, and seized all his papers. Is this the way to surrender a bail piece? Can you doubt that Goodwill *knew* to what those papers appertained? Was there a mason in Batavia who did not know that Morgan was writing out the secrets of masonry, and if found writing, as he was, concealed in a garret, could Johnson Goodwill have any doubt as to what that writing and those papers related to? We asked Goodwill if he *knew* what those papers were, but the court, I regret, did not permit the question to be urged.

Goodwill hurried Morgan to jail. Not a moment was allowed him to find new bail. Had the fear of his avoiding his bail been the cause of his arrest, those who ordered it would only have desired to get their names from the bail-bond, and let others take the responsibility. The bail would only have sought to exonerate themselves, but not to commit Morgan to prison, when he had made no attempt whatever to avoid his bail. But he was hurried to prison by Goodwill, as if he feared that some one would interpose to offer bail. "I carried him directly to jail," says Johnson Goodwill, and what followed. When at the jail, Goodwill and his associates doubtless examined their prize, the papers. They found something wanting. They had not got all. A new plan is devised. Goodwill, the master spirit of the conspiracy, is despatched with a sham execution to the house where Mrs. Morgan was, in the expectation that Morgan, who had secreted himself in another house, might have left his manuscript with his wife. Goodwill demands property of her, and he says she produced a *trunk:* a little trunk! Do you believe this? Was there nothing else Mrs. Morgan had?

not a chair, a gown, a pair of shoes, that *she* should produce this identical little trunk, containing her husband's papers, for Johnson Goodwill, no officer, to levy an execution for eight dollars on, after Mrs. Morgan knew that her husband was already in jail for the debt, and knew this trunk would not pay even the service of the execution? Do you believe it?

But Johnson Goodwill was satisfied the moment he got the trunk. No further questions were asked, and the trunk was carried off, a little leather trunk, two feet long, worth perhaps a dollar, upon which Goodwill levies his execution for eight or ten dollars, and carries it off! And we next hear of it in Humphrey's Hall, in the midst of a lodge of masons, who were examining its contents! Think you all this simply grew out of the surrender of a bail piece, and the levy of an execution for eight or ten dollars! Gentlemen, you are men of common sense.

Many, if not all of you, must have heard of that dark, daring and desperate conspiracy in the Western part of New York, which in 1826, led to the kidnapping and murder of a free citizen, under circumstances of enormity and impudent defiance of the laws, unparalleled for their atrocity in the history of crime. You have heard of the men engaged in that outrage from its commencement to the final catastrophe, and you have doubtless wondered what sort of men they could be who would thus steep themselves in guilt. I did not think, you could not have thought that *here* in this community of intelligence, good order and law, such an exhibition as you now see, would ever have been presented. You have heard the evidence, and I have stated to you the facts in the case: and gentlemen, if ever there was a masonic conspiracy in New York against William Morgan, there stands before you *a Morgan conspirator!*" [pointing to Johnson Goodwill.]

Note. The foregoing is the substance of the remarks made to the jury by the counsel for the prosecution in the trial of Moore & Sevey. Every eye, in the crowded court room was drawn upon Goodwill, and even he was abashed.

I have thus, fellow citizens, given you the facts relative to this man, that you may see under what circumstances and feelings he came voluntarily four hundred

miles to swear down my character in this community. Johnson Goodwill has had a remarkable connexion with this business from the beginning till now. He was, as you have seen, the first prime mover and agent in the conspiracy, to get possession of Morgan's person and papers. At another period, he seems to have been again "deputed" by masons, to commence an action of libel against Solomon Southwick, in order to stop his press, which was then fearlessly exposing the Morgan conspiracy. And lastly, he is sent four hundred miles, to swear down my character and extricate his brother masons, Moore & Sevey, from difficulty, "right or wrong." Judge ye, men of honour, of truth, of common charity, whether I ought to be condemned upon the single testimony of Johnson Goodwill?

Affidavit of John Hoar, of Monson, Mass.

I, John Hoar, of the town of Monson, county of Hampden, and State of Massachusetts, do declare and say that previous to the year 1814, I was acquainted with Johnson Goodwill, of the town of Willington, in the State of Connecticut, and now reported to be of Batavia or Pembroke, N. Y. and I had known said Goodwill from early boyhood, till on or about the year 1814. further declare and say, that said Johnson Goodwill was reputed to be a notorious gambler, from quite early age, and during the whole time he lived in said Connecticut, and that he kept the company of those who were reputed and known as blacklegs or gamblers. I further declare and say, that in the year 1813 or 14, said Johnson Goodwill left the State of Connecticut under very suspicious circumstances, being as was currently reported, guilty of passing counterfeit money in the State of Rhode Island, and was taken up for the same, and having escaped from the officer, John Sessions of Providence, R. I. he absconded and was pursued to Randolph, in Vt. and not being overtaken he evaded justice in this way. I further declare and say that I have seen the report of the trial of Moore and Sevey, for a libel on Samuel D. Greene, and was surprised when I read Johnson Goodwill's testimony denying that he absconded from the State of Connecticut, when it was so generally known. I further declare and say that it was currently reported and believed at the time, that

said Johnson Goodwill kept a mistress in a neighboring town, when at the same time he had a wife and children living in the town of Willington. And further, he was reputed generally and always from boyhood to the year 1813 or 14, the time he left the State of Connecticut for elsewhere, as a horse-jocky, gambler and bawd, and further this deponent saith that said Johnson Goodwill was apprehended in Hartford, Connecticut, for swindling and escaped only by paying a heavy fine. And further this deponent saith not. JOHN HOAR.

Subscribed this 11th day of September, 1834, in presence of
BURRAGE YALE, *South Reading.*
NAT FISKE, *Framingham.*

NOTE. By comparing the above declaration with the one given by John B. Snow, a Justice of the Peace, in Providence, in 1814, the reader will perceive that much light is thrown upon the identity of the person arrested by Justice Snow, for passing counterfeit money. [See page 16 ante.]

The following article from the Chatauque Phenix, was published in the New York Batavia Advocate, edited by Col. David C. Miller, July, 1828:

"Mr. Samuel D. Greene was first among those who set on foot an investigation of this matter, [the kidnapping and murder of Morgan] although he kept himself and his operations concealed, until public sentiment was sufficiently directed to the subject to prevent the kidnapping and murder of another man, when he publicly renounced the institution, and became publicly its opposer; and we venture to assert that there has not been a man in the field who has done more, endured more, or made greater sacrifices in the cause, than Mr. Greene.

As soon as he made a public renunciation of the order, he was met by the most wanton missiles in every direction, from the hands of foul conspirators and abettors of the deepest and darkest crimes. Every avenue to his business was closed up—he was pointed out to the world for hundreds of miles round as an "unworthy and vicious vagabond," and the credit of his house destroyed; and even his own brethren in the church propagated

the vilest and most debasing slanders respecting his character—calling him a perjured villain—accusing him of lying—of keeping a bad house—and of every species of vice which human nature is capable. We ourselves have heard the same stories respecting this man reported here with much affectation of gravity, by masons from that section of the country. Thus situated, Mr. Greene could obtain no redress—the officers of the church were equally divided, half of them being masons and his very calumniators, so that he could expect no redress from an appeal to the church—and if he appealed to the laws of his country, all their ministers were masons, and he could expect no redress there.—It is impossible to describe the feelings of a man thus situated—those only who have felt the mysterious influence of masonry meeting them at every avenue of their business, and in every department of life, can form any just estimate of his sufferings—and even of these there are few, if any, who can comprehend them.

But we have the satisfaction of informing our readers, (and we do it with grateful hearts,) that the same Being who for wise purposes brings affliction upon his children, has also fully delivered him from the power of his enemies, and enabled him to see the triumph of religion over masonry in his own church and presbytery. After long seeking and demanding an investigation of the charges made against him by his masonic brethren, he finally obtained a full and complete exoneration from every one of them; and had the satisfaction of seeing a vote passed the church, disfellowshipping masonry, and requiring masonic brethren to renounce, and debarring masons from joining, unless they renounce. From this decision they appealed to the presbytery, which has just closed its session in Batavia; and which has, after a long and laborious investigation, fully and completely sustained the decision of the church. Truly, all lovers of "pure and undefiled religion," must rejoice at such results.

From the N. Y. Batavia Advocate of July 4, 1828.

Mr. S. D. Greene. Since this gentleman renounced the masonic institution, he has been subjected to every species of malice which his masonic enemies could devise, to injure his standing; and slanders vile and unfounded, have been propagated respecting him. He was induced in consequence, to request a

trial before the session of the Presbyterian church as to his moral and Christian character, these reports having been circula ted by the masonic brethren in the church. The investigation has terminated in a complete refutation of the reports, and very satisfactorily as regards his reputation as a man and a Christian.

It is a remarkable coincident, that Johnson Goodwill should have been selected, as the fit instrument for the first assault on Morgan; next to arrest Solomon Southwick when he came to Le Roy to deliver his Oration, and lastly, to come to Boston to swear down my character in a court of justice; all done under the form of law. Col. D. C. Miller, in the Batavia Advocate of July 11, 1828, makes the following remarks, and these facts illustrate the observation of Lord Mansfield, "that it is the worst of despotisms, where a man can be unjustly deprived of life, liberty, and property, under the forms of law."

July 11, 1826.

"We understand that Col. Goodwill, of this place, had a writ granted him, which was served upon Mr. Southwick, for a libel upon his character; though it is most probable it was but an attempt to create confusion at Le Roy. It is too bad, however, to prosecute. We have heard of a person being robbed when he possessed neither money or reputation; but this is a step beyond such an occurence. It is too bad for printers, for they may draw upon them the vengeance of the tenants of our State prisons, if they treat their characters disrespectfully. We believe that the alledged cause for the libel was an observation of Mr. Southwick's, if Col. Goodwill had fallen into Mount Vesuvius, it would not have been too good for him. He was wrong—we would not have wished for such an event—as no man should be punished, by fire at least, before his proper time."

I have shown, by the preceeding part of this Appendix, why Johnson Goodwill came of his own accord four hundred miles, from Batavia to Boston, to be a voluntary witness against me. The question will now naturally arise, why has Mr. Greene merited from the Masonic fraternity such "mortal" hatred? In order to exhibit my offending for the querist to judge for himself, I append the following. Early in 1827, I was called upon as a witness and testified against one of the Morgan conspirators;

this brought upon me many severe censures from the masons generally. In a few days after I withdrew from the institution, and published the following:

To the once worshipful master, wardens, and brethren of Batavia Lodge of free and accepted Masons: From that ancient and honorable institution, sceptically so called, the subscriber begs leave to withdraw, and he would observe, that it is not because honorable men do not belong to it, and men too who are, of themselves, an honor to any institution, nor is it because he is convinced that men possessing all the turpitude of the natural heart belong to it—but it is because that speculative masonry was ever and always, in his opinion, useless, but especially under our present laws, in an enlightened and civilized country. And I challenge any Christian, exercised with a true spirit, to show me that it contains the least spark of religion, or any thing by its figurative morality that, if pursued, can carry a man to heaven. A pious gentleman of much note, last summer, said, "Mr. Greene, I hope you have not been so foolish as to become a mason!" "Why, sir," said I, "are you not one?" "When I was a boy I was foolish enough to join them, but I know nothing about them now." "Why then," said I, "did you not express it publicly, being a man of note, that others might not join it." "Why," he says, "all our good and great men are abandoning it."

SAMUEL D. GREENE.

Batavia, January 24, 1827.

Soon after my renunciation, it became known to my neighbors, and especially to the Morgan conspirators, that during the conspiracy I had been entrusted with their plans for the destruction of life and property, and had used my utmost exertions to defeat them, and in several instances had been successful. This brought down upon my head the anathemas of the brotherhood, who have sworn if any one should violate any essential part of his obligation, which is as follows. Vide Bernard's Light on Masonry. Allyn's Ritual.

"You further swear, that, should you know another to violate any essential part of this obligation, you will use your most decided endeavours, by the blessing of God, [by the assistance of the devil,] to

bring such person to the strictest and most condign punishment, agreeably to the rules and usage of our ancient fraternity; and this by pointing him out to the world as an UNWORTHY VAGABOND; by opposing his interest, by deranging his business, by transferring his character after him, (that is, such a character as Masons give him) wherever he may go, and by exposing him to the contempt of the whole fraternity and the world, but of our illustrious order more especially, during his whole natural life."

Thus I was made to suffer materially by private slander, while the public, generally, were unacquainted with the particulars of my persecution, and often inquired why such heavy curses were dealt so unsparingly upon a private individual who was not known publicly to offend. My business was deranged, so much so, that the custom to my public house, was nearly gone, and I and my family verging to want. Believing that the great body of the people were honest and would sustain me if they knew the cause of my suffering, after consulting with some of my friends, I wrote the following letters to Solomon Southwick, Esq. of Albany, who published them in his National Observer, in October, 1827.

From Southwick's National Observer.

CAPT. GREEN'S LETTERS.

"The last strong hold, behind which Masons attempt to shelter themselves, is a broad and sweeping accusation against their opponents; that argument cannot be held, slander and abuse must come in the way of substitution, or rather in the shape of retaliation. I am a living witness of these assertions. By the plausible *out side show* of Masonry, with the burnished paintings of its bewildered and bewildering adherents, I was induced in the year 1825, to petition to the Batavia Lodge for admission, under the solemn assurance that Masonry had not wrapped up in its mysteries any thing inconsistent with Christianity; and to use the very words of the person who addressed and advised me, "I should not have been willing to have died without the secrets of Masonry." In January, 1826, the petition passed, and I was informed that the Lodge was ready to receive me. As a preface to my introduction to the lodge, and the subsequent ordeal through which I was obliged to pass, I aver that every thing was done in the way laid down in Morgan's book, with the only ex-

ception of the ignorance of the Master, in some matters, which after knowledge would enable him to teach, and a promise of future obedience, oblige me to receive. I was pressed to take some stimulus, as I had, according to their statement, "*to take a hard pull.*" I was then conducted to a small room, where I objected to be put in the ridiculous posture required, but after being assured that all the ancient and honorable before me had submitted, duped and blindfolded, I proceeded, and was initiated in the first degree of nonsense, got my little apron on with bib up and seated, and inquired of a friend, if the whole ceremony was not the play of a child, and an object of ridicule. The answer was, I had only got on the first step, that the degree of Fellow-Craft was much *better*, and that of Master Mason was sublime.

In the interim, I spoke well of Masonry from the hidden treasures which I believed were in store, though suspicions were entertained that I had not received from it all the light and information which they would force their followers to believe was in the grasp of their power. A son of Galen or Esculapius was commissioned to give a serious lecture, to instruct and to impress on their minds the duties of secrecy and watchfulness, as one member bound by his profession to watch over the affairs of the widow and orphan, in bar-rooms and other places, whose pulse runs high and his brain was bewildered, had been too flippant with the signs.

During the spring and summer of 1826, I held frequent conversations as to the folly of the institution, but was assured that if I would attend the lodges, I should be pleased to learn the lectures, as they were interesting, and on this recommendation I embraced opportunities that were offered, and had considerable information from Morgan on the subject. By the whole process I got some folly into my head, but I hope not into my heart.—Late in the summer there was some talk about the intention of Morgan to publish a book that would reveal the secrets of Masonry. I observed, I cared nothing if he published the whole, but some of those with whom I conversed thought differently, and in the end acted against my advice. During the last days of August and the first of September, jealousy was excited

and inquiry made whether I was true. I told them I hoped so: and on the 8th of September, I was informed while in company with G—, a mason, by T—, a mason, that a large body of the fraternity was in and about the village, met for the purpose of forcibly attacking Miller's office, and seizing his papers, or by some means to suppress the intended publication, and that resolution should be carried into effect, even if Morgan and Miller were lost to society. This information led me to serious and solemn thought, acting under the dictates of my own understanding, knowing that an all-pervading eye, penetrated into the inmost recesses of my heart. The gospel of Christ as well as my own unbiassed judgment convinced me, that they had superior obligations to the ties of a secret combination; and that if I knew of a villainous action about to be committed, and confined that knowledge to my own bosom, I was consenting to do evil, and in the true meaning of the words, an actual conspirator in league with the demons of iniquity. I had foolishly entered their lodges, and their awful oaths were hanging over me like a sword suspended by a single hair. Acting under the influence of this fear, I dared not, for my own personal safety say any thing to the civil officers. Weighing the matter well in my mind under existing circumstances, I resolved that I should inform George W. Harris, and request him to inform Col. Miller of the intended attack.

SAMUEL D. GREENE.

Batavia, Oct. 2, 1827.

LETTER, NO. II.

As a trustee of the village, I felt interested in another way, and suggested the idea that it was best to have a guard set, which was done, and I encouraged my boarders to go. This preparation was made, and there was no alarm that night. Mr. Harris called on Saturday, and asked me if I had learned any thing new. I told him they were not dispersed, but reinforced, as I understood, and that by all means they should strengthen their guard. There was nothing done on Saturday evening, and due credit was not attached to the information, and accordingly no guard was formed on Sunday evening, and the offices were fired about three o'clock on Monday morning. I was informed of the

fire, and declared to masons I would not justify or approve of such an action; and while talking with two hot-headed fools, the sons of Esculapius, as a watchman of the proceedings came on and said, "hush." It is said Col. Miller set his own building on fire to gain sympathy. I said you cannot palm that upon me. It is no such thing. "Well, you had better say nothing about it at any rate." Immediately afterwards I was informed that Morgan was carried off. Capt. Davids came to my house to make immediate pursuit, and asked for a saddle. I told him to take saddle and horses if he required them, and if possible, to keep twenty men in sight of him, else I fear you never see him again. When I found that Capt. Davids did not follow in the pursuit, I went again to Mr. Harris to inquire of his knowledge on the subject, and finding he could not satisfy me, I proceeded up street to make further inquiry, when Galen, Dr. Dibble, stopped me, and said he wished to talk with me. The conversation immediately referred to Morgan, and the reply to me was, "Do you think that such gentlemen as have come out after him would do him any injury or injustice; they are gentlemen of the first respectability from Canandaigua." And he continued, "I was sorry to hear you say so much about the setting of fire as you did in the street; it is said Miller set his own buildings on fire." I said I did not believe it. "Well, (says he) if it were otherwise, you should say nothing about it; even if you should see his office torn down, or his throat cut, you should say nothing about it; for what if two millions of masons should come upon you, they would destroy you. You should give no suspicions at this time, especially as there is some one that lets out all the mason's plans, and you may be suspected, and I may be suspected: therefore you should say nothing, see what you may: you are a young mason; you should be cautious." God forbid, says I, that I should be an old mason, if it be a sink of iniquity. At this time of the interview, Mr. Harris passed us, and overheard some of the conversation. The man of the lancet and pills continued, "You cannot tell how the masons were incensed in Canada, when I was there the other day. I should not be surprised if we were all burnt up here, if Miller should go on with the book; for good men of all classes are determined he shall not go on." I do not believe it, says I. When

seeing I was not willing to accede to his opinion, he proceeded, "I could raise ministers of the gospel, and deacons of the church, sufficient to raze this village to the level." I don't believe that neither, says I: You cannot make me believe that the Christian principle is so corrupt yet. "I know you don't, but it is so," with that engagedness that his eyes were filled with tears. I then left him, and narrated the whole conversation to Mr. Harris, and informed him as to my fears respecting the fate of Morgan; but from the reported respectability of his abductors, he was unwilling to dread serious consequences.

On my way home I met Mr. ——, who informed that the masons had been in on Friday the 8th, and that they had a wagon back of the Clerk's office, waiting to receive what might be got; and they remained there till the stage came in about 4 o'clock, and then they departed. I have seen others who made similar declarations, and said they guessed Miller would take a hard one that night. This information I communicated to Mr. Harris. I went home, and a Mr. ——, called on me, and inquired particularly whether I was true; he was informed by Mr. ——, a mason present, that I was, but did not make any communication to me, except the profession of his deep interest for the secrets of masonry, and what a rascally thing it was to publish them. This gentleman lived forty miles from Batavia. A Mr. ——, minister, informed me that he understood there was a coffin in the wagon, with lead in the bottom.

On Monday I was asked to go to Le Roy, by ——, Justice of the Peace, who also wanted of me a horse and wagon, for a Mr. ——, a red hot mason, was going along with him; all which I refused. On Tuesday morning, the 12th of September, I was waited on by B——, and requested that I should appear under the hill, at the East end of the village, for the masons were to meet there and march in precisely at 1 o'clock, to attack Miller's office, and to get the papers, and as I had possession of the keys of the Presbyterian church, they wanted the warning bell to be rung at 12; to all which propositions I gave a prompt refusal, and took means through Mr. Harris to convey the intelligence to Col. Miller, and the masons soon found that their secret had been divulged to many. That day, immediately after giving this

last communication, in company with another member of the church, I went one mile to the West for the purpose of hiring a gentleman to preach with us; and when returning, in company with my friend, asked him what day of the week and month, what month and year was it? he answering, I replied, well Tuesday the 12th September, 1826, is a day long to be remembered, and will be handed to posterity as a day memorable to America. When I returned home I found John —— at my house, who said, "come, you must be ready to turn out, they are coming down; you will see that they will make the offices tremble; you must be ready to help; you know you can swear one way as well as another." I observed, I dont know, in order to evade him, but he said "there was some damned traitor in the camp, and we will find him out yet, and he had better been dead; his house will be burned over his head." Soon after, I called my wife aside to a chamber, from the windows of which we could see the printing offices, and there I told her the whole matter as related. I mentioned if I was killed, she would tell the whole to the world. She remained in the chamber till she saw the crowd come in, and French pulling Col. Miller down his office stairs. French, in company with a tall constable, came to my house, and said the damned Judas had prevented their going on. The latter observed, "Greene, they mistrust you;" but I told them there was no such thing. My object was once more obtained, the offices were not pulled down, and as yet no lives lost to my knowledge. When I found Col. Miller was in custody, I found means to have a private interview with Mr. Harris. I urged him to see that a company started after Col. Miller, and for fear his exertions would not avail, I did not rest till I found there was a sufficient posse in pursuit able to rescue him from the Knights who were armed with clubs and hoop-poles. To every statement mentioned here, I am willing to make affidavit, and before any Court of Justice, to give the names, not in blank, but as known in their proper persons. For my exertions in the cause of humanity, I have the approbation of my own mind, and the approval of Heaven, but the enmity of masons have been exercised against me with a virulence disgraceful to any order or profession of men. I keep a public tavern in the village of Batavia, and since my dis-

closure of the villainous plot, that was a stigma on human nature, resort has been had to every mean artifice, to injure me in business, and to reduce me to want; pains is taken to prevent travellers from calling at my house, and nothing that falsehood can invent left untried to accomplish their designs; I am a free citizen in a free country, and when by honourable and honest means I provide for myself and family, I claim the protection and patronage of my fellow citizens. The above disclosure will not be the least recommendation in my favour.

SAMUEL D. GREENE.

Batavia, October, 1827.

LETTER, NO. III.

"He who steals my purse steals trash; 'twas mine, 'tis his, and has been slave to thousands; but he who filches from me my good name, robs me of that which not enriches him, but makes me poor indeed."

About the time Morgan was taken off, the lodge met frequently, and the master and officers appeared in their conjunctive capacity, like a farmer who was highly displeased with the hogs or cattle being in his potatoes or corn, and in such an emergency would call on his hounds and set them on with all violence. Such an observation was made in the lodge the next meeting after the fire was set to Miller's office. The impression was attempted to be circulated, "Think much of your firmness, and the honour that is attached to the institution, and shrink not from your duty. Keep perfectly calm in all your investigations, but determined in all you do, be still, say but little. It would have gone off that Miller set his own buildings on fire, if there had been less said about it." The officer who then presided in absence of the master, felt the difficulty of the task assigned to him, and when nearly through the first section of lectures of the entered Apprentices, so far as to arrive at the repetition of the obligation, and to that part of it which states, you shall not print, stain, stamp, &c. or suffer it to be done, if in your power to prevent. Says the officer, think of this, if in your power! What is your power! What cannot you effect when you are united and persevering; you have privileges far superior to those who surround you, who are not members of our honourable society. The meaning evidently was, that any thing done to suppress the

book would be considered highly honourable and meritorious. To several of the brethren I made remonstrances against these observations, and told them that perhaps all did not think as the Worshipful did, to exercise our power of body to pull down or destroy life or property; the better way is to say Boo, and let it all go; no one then would believe it, though it might be true; that would be using our greatest power. This was the substance of my advice, not because I wished to preserve the rotten order, but I did not like that lives and property should be lost in its support. At the meeting after this time, or the second time, the matter was discussed quite differently. A number of lodges were represented, whether they were legally appointed as delegates, or whether they were of one accord on this point assembled, I know not, but the grand object appeared to be to avoid those who would read Morgan's Book, and prevent them from attending their meetings. These lodges severally practised giving their test oath, notwithstanding the Visitor should be vouched for, as that was the safest way to detect Book Masons. Further advice was given to be silent on the subject of masonry in this excitement, only to speak well of the institution. Though we may have abundance of argument to justify our actions, yet we cannot explain ourselves, conveying by the conversation the idea, that if we attempt explanation, we should say such is the nature of our obligations, and the execution of them is morally just. I gained this information from two ministers of regular standing at present in society, who stated that although it would not be justifiable by civil laws to take the life of Morgan, yet it would be *morally* right and just, for he had violated his obligations and justly forfeited his life. To one of the ministers I observed, if such be your sentiments and ideas of morality, I differ materially from you, and I wish no further conversation on that subject. My eyes were opened. I had beheld its iniquity, and dared to express myself with freedom. Soon after leaving him, I expressed my sentiments thus: That there was not the least spark of Christianity or morality in masonry; and that the followers of Jesus should have nothing to do with it; for in my opinion, they could not be disciples who adhere to its principles, or meet in its secret conclaves. My Bible, with the exercise of my own mind,

guided me, and I had my information from a minister of the gospel, who had been master of a lodge for several years. Through some source, the lodge to which I belonged heard of my assertion, and they appointed a member, to use their technical phrase, to deal with me on the subject, as they had done in the case before, when I was *imprudent* enough to object to the setting of fire and the pulling down of offices, and the commission of murder. I was also instructed to keep secret the name of the person who conversed with me; for it was stated, if I divulged the secret, I was taking away my brother's good name, and violating my obligation. I observed in reply, should you steal a horse, and I detect you, and you should suffer the stigma of it, should I or yourself rob you of your good name? This member advised me not to withdraw, and was desirous to know whether I insisted that the lodge was no place for Christians. I observed I did, and that they ought not to frequent such places. He replied, he thought so himself, and that he had not visited it so frequently of late. He wished to know what I thought of masonry being moral. I said probably in the commencement it was intended to be moral. "Well, do you think it is moral now?" Says I, it may be; I am not so particularly at war with the sentiments of masonry, as I am with the outrages committed. He said he disliked them, but masonry was good. However, I thought that the outrages committed were the fruits by which we might judge of the tree. In January, 1827, I publicly withdrew from the lodge and masonry, at the same time giving my solemn opinion of it. In February following, I was cited to appear before the lodge, and not complying with the summons, I was publicly expelled for what they called unmasonic conduct. The circumstance convinces me still more thoroughly that every man who would not go all lengths with them in favour of conspiracy and murder, and who will not consent to call their diabolical actions, Christian, moral and just, is guilty of unmasonic conduct, and liable to expulsion. I have found from actual knowledge, that those who have been aiders and abettors of murder, are considered to be good and faithful brethren, and are willingly admitted to the charities and privileges of the ancient and honourable institution.

SAMUEL D. GREENE.

Batavia, October 2, 1827.

LETTER, NO. IV.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Shakspeare.*

Since the Lodge passed censure on me, for not adhering to the bloody laws, they called my conduct *unmasonic.* The main object of all their procedures seems to be, that Justice may be hoodwinked, and Liberty bound in chains. Means are resorted to by every cunning device that the Order may stand before the world in a fair and flourishing appearance. They have attempted to secure all the uninitiated, who, in the least had any knowledge of the outrages, in their masonic shackles; and in some instances have succeeded. In the Institution there are some "leaky vessels," and from such sources, I know that the fraternity are admonished and enjoined to withhold intercourse and deal with all who have left them, to detect the informant, and to make no communications to the suspected brethren; evidently drawing a line between anti-masons and themselves, emblematical of their *supposed* lordly power. But under a free government, where we breathe (unbiassed by masonic oaths) no such air, the honest are discovering the wickedness of the craft, and when the opposers of law and religion secure one, the dear and sacred principles of liberty and law, encouraged others to pursue a different course. Many of the Chapters and Lodges are in a tremendous quarrel, and some have voted their charters back to the mother fountain of iniquity. I say fountain of iniquity; for reason, without the aid of religion, teaches me that Arson, Kidnapping and Murder, are crimes of the darkest die, and the fountain which feeds them must be corrupt at its source. The Lodge and Chapter in this and other places, *acted in concert and under the direction of the Grand Lodge of the State*, and the said Grand Lodge DID CAST LOTS *who should come out and DISPATCH* MORGAN, and MILLER *if necessary, to suppress the development of Masonic secrets.* My authority is from the best sources, and is unquestionable. When the acts of the Chapter and Lodges were known, they refused to act as bodies on the deed of death, but frequently met in knots of eight or ten, to contrive mischief and even then admitted to their confidence none but those who had been actually engaged in the conspiracy, for aiding and abetting; but

so black and horrid were their plots, that among these few desperadoes, several shuddered and revolted.

I have thus far given a brief account of what actually passed at the commencement of the outrages committed on Morgan and Miller, in order to suppress the publication of the secrets of Masonry. Also, the Masonic punishment inflicted on me for objecting to such procedures. Were I to give a full account of all the facts in my possession, relative to the case, and all the abominable persecutions and hellish machinations against me, personally, (yet by them truly masonic) it would be devoting more time to the subject than I feel willing, at present, to spare.

S. D. GREENE.

Batavia, Oct. 2, 1827.

From this effort I received momentary relief. My business revived, and to appearance I was about to receive the reward of a grateful public for daring in time of peril to do my duty. But on the 25th of January, 1828, the Republican Advocate published at Batavia, and edited by David C. Miller, inserted my letters with these remarks:

"In this paper will be found the first number of Capt. Greene's Letters, addressed to the editor of the National Observer, which will be continued from time to time, until they are all published.

In the development of the Masonic outrages, no man has been placed in a more delicate and difficult situation than Capt. Greene, and but few would have met and overcome the toils and snares of his enemies with greater facility than he has done. Surrounded by false and foul brethren in the Lodge and in the Church, his has been a state of the severest trials for the last 15 months, but single-handed he has triumphed over the wiles of closely combined enemies determined on his ruin. Naturally warm and ardent in his feelings, and young in the knowledge of its mysteries, he was, unasked and unsolicited, made the depositary of masonic *intentions* and masonic *power*. If he shrunk from the horrid picture of meditated violence, arranged in the Grand Chapter of the State, commanding its subordinates, with fire, faggots, poison and blood, to stop the publication of the secrets of masonry, he did no more than any honest man should have done. But when he dared to give *warning* of danger to

the victims of masonic wrath and power, he showed that he not only *felt* but *dared* to act.

In proportion to the value placed upon property and life, the public are indebted to Capt. Greene. But for his timely caution our dwellings would have been wrapped in flames, and our streets drenched with blood. It was *this* that called upon his devoted head the anathemas and continued curses of such men as Doctor Dibble, (sometimes called Deacon Dibble, and by the *very* irreverent, Deacon Devil.)* It was this deacon that took him to task, and put him through a severe masonic drill, when he discovered that he recoiled from the view of arson and murder; it was *this* deacon also, who told him that "there are, belonging to the masonic order, sufficient numbers of Deacons of the Church and *Ministers* of the Gospel who stand ready to tear Miller's printing offices to the ground;" thus endeavouring to inspire him with the strength and terror of the Order. It was *this* deacon too, who remarked to him in the same conversation, "should you see them [the masons] tearing down Miller's buildings, or even taking his life, lift not your hand or voice in opposition." And it was *this* deacon who told Mr. and Mrs. Otto, that the Grand Lodge of the State had sent on orders to suppress Morgan's work, cost what it may, *even to the shedding of blood!*

Under the discipline of such a drill-master, with all the terrors of the hell-engendered Order spread before him, few would have dared to have been just. It is for this doing and daring that Capt. Greene is visited, in character and property, with continued masonic curses. To illustrate this, we need only name a recent occurrence; the hero of the occurrence will be found to be one of the most mischief-making, meddling bipeds that ever stood upon two feet; one for whom masonry was made, and he for it; we here scarcely need name *Ebenezer Mix.* True to his sworn fealty to his lovely masonry, which enjoins upon him "*to make its enemies his enemies,*" in a late peregrination to Buffalo, *Mix* took it into his head to stop the stage at almost every public

* "Our readers will excuse us for indulging in epithets and names, when they are made acquainted with the fact, that several individuals of our village drive a considerable trade at slandering certain characters, among whom stand pre-eminently conspicuous, *Deacon* Dibble, Grand Commander Sir Henry Brown, General Towner, and Ebenezer Mix."

house between this village and that, not to pay his devoirs at the bar, but to berate the character of Capt. Greene and his family, and advise the kindly listening landlord to warn his travelling customers against Greene's house, giving it a character of *lowness* and *looseness*. Discovering, by a word which fell from some one, that one of his fellow passengers was Greene's bar-keeper; MIX, with an assurance and effrontery for which he is unsurpassed, turned to him and inquired, "Have you a wife?" on being answered in the affirmative, he continued, "What! and left her at Greene's?" "Yes." "Then, I advise you to go immediately back, if you regard your own honour; settle with him, leave him, and I will look you up some *respectable* place."

Such facts as the foregoing, in connection with hundreds of other masonic efforts to destroy, that might be named, has called forth these remarks. And we can assure the traveller, who has occasion to stop in our village, that at Greene's he will find good accommodations, ready and willing attendants, an intelligent landlord, surrounded by an interesting family."

These remarks seemed to give a new impulse to the Masons generally, who were implicated in consequence of fellowshipping the Conspirators and Murderers, but more especially the conspirators themselves, and new exertions were made, and not a stone left unturned to bring me to utter ruin. Col. Miller took leave of the Advocate as Editor, and in his address to his personal friends and the public, he observes:

"*To my Personal Friends and the Public.*

The witnesses are numerous and honourable that Masonry is worthless; that it is a curse to a free, thinking, moral people; Lodges are returning their charters, and the best members of the fraternity raising their voices and pens against it; embodying a multitude of faults, without a single virtue to soften its vices, he must indeed be a visionary who can cherish a lingering hope that the Order can be sustained. With these views of the subject, and when it is considered that the struggles I have been compelled to make, have been ardent and intense, I think the public will agree with me that I may with propriety withdraw from the field, more especially as I have never been any thing

further than a simple instrument in originating this moral revolution. In this I have not claimed, neither do I claim any other merit than that of *daring* to do my duty; and even in this I owe all to the support and moral firmness of a few dauntless individuals, whose nerves were strung with an energy equal to the danger and justice of the cause.

In this great struggle the names of George W. Harris and Samuel D. Greene, of John Hascall, James Ballard, Herbert A. Read, and Elder David Bernard, stand conspicuous in the great moral daring. They were Masons, and as such periled all that is dear to man to promote the great controversy. To some of them the public are indebted for the exposure and suppression of intended violence by their untiring vigilance and timely warnings, and to all for their various independent and manly efforts in unveiling the hideous deformities of a moral monster. I speak particularly of these gentlemen, because they were in the field at a time that called for more than ordinary daring. If to any, in this section, much is due, it is to them."

After many more remarks of a general nature, he closes as follows: "With these few remarks I take my leave of you, and I hope forever—as the conductor of a Public Journal; and as sincerely wishing you social and political happiness as I believe in the ultimate downfall of Masonry.

DAVID C. MILLER."

Still determined to act only in defence for the preservation of life and that of my family, I commenced diffusing more universal information on the subject of Freemasonry, by establishing an Anti-Masonic Reading Room, which the Batavia Advocate of Dec. 5, 1828, notices thus:

"We are pleased to observe that a number of Anti-Masonic Editors have complied with Mr. Greene's request in sending papers to his Anti-Masonic Reading Room; and trust others will follow their example. Mr. Greene derives no advantage from this, having only established the room for the public accommodation."

This Room was a place of much resort. Information was obtained; confidence was restored, and my business and custom increased; and on the 14th December, 1828, I put the following advertisement into the Republican Advocate.

"BATAVIA HOTEL.

HAVING for a long time kept Public House, the subscriber has the assurance to observe that he is competent and qualified for the task. He has removed from the house called the County Hotel or Park Tavern, to the Old Stand, known as the Russell or Gibbs House, in the central part of the village. He has a good house, well fitted up, good attendants, and a plenty of good victuals and drink, and (in the recent outrages upon Morgan and Miller, for which the country is brought to the blush,) *happens* to be on the *good* side of the question. Gentlemen call and see the *worst* man in all the country—so say the *masons*. S. D. GREENE."

In consequence of my success, or the advertisement, "vengeance" was visited upon me by besmearing or painting my house and windows on the night of the last day of Dec. 1828, which gave rise to the following letter to Frederick A. Sumner, of Boston, and published in the Boston Anti-Masonic Free Press.

Batavia, January 20, 1829.

DEAR SIR.....The guardian care with which you observe every part of the Anti-Masonic cause deserves well of an enlightened community. No one with whom the masonic party is at war but the editor of the Free Press, like a faithful sentinel upon the watch-tower of freedom, observes and defends him. With due respect and grateful acknowledgements, I tender you my hearty thanks for the notice you have in this instance taken of me. Sir, I left not the masonic ranks for honour or profit, but to satisfy my conscience in regard to that duty I owed to my God, myself and country. Such sentiments as are expressed in "the Free Press," not only revives the drooping, but animates them to onward achievements in the noble cause of virtue. Your notice of the Reading Room is gratifying. I keep it up for the public good, it is a master engine, to throw light abroad. It makes the masons tremendously mad; they sometimes come in, *when I am absent* from home, and tear up the papers. They are sure to tear the "*Boston Free Press*," and the "Anti-Masonic Enquirer." This looks like Masonry. New Years morn was ushered into me rather unpleasantly. They had, (agreeable to their usage,) the night before, marked my house with printer's ink in large letters and obscene words, the whole

length and one end, (the end in which the reading room is,) and the pillars in front they striped round like barbers' poles, a cross on every pane of glass in front of the house, and the end of the reading room. My name on the sign was blotted out. The lilies and the scrolls on the sign were tied about with tailor's list, nearly 200 yards, and fastened to my pillars in front and door knobs; and in the act to take down my bell from the top of the house, they got alarmed and fled; as yet they are not discovered. Public feeling is aroused on the subject; the streets were crowded with masonic spectators, jacks and dough-faces, shrugging up their shoulders, braying and grinning, while two hands and myself were engaged in defacing with spirits of turpentine their vulgarity. With patience I bear the indignity, for I know that the destruction of the order is to advance the cause of religion and liberty. Every insult they can bestow on me is the test how much to love or how much to despise others in proportion as others defend and remain quiet in relation to me. Every merited contempt they bring on themselves, they turn and say this would not have been so were it not for Greene, he has brought us into this difficulty, therefore, partially attributing to me what God has guided me in the way of truth, and this annoys them in their diabolical plans. I am not sorry but glad.

I am, dear sir, yours with due respect.

SAMUEL D. GREENE.

At the January term of the Court, 1829, my house was well filled with boarders and customers; and the next resort of the craft was to hire the butcher, who was a *Freemason*, to sell me no meats for my table, which caused the following notice to be given in the Republican Advocate, and after great exertions, I obtained a butcher who answered the advertisement, and furnished me with meats.

"WANTED,

IN the village of Batavia, a Butcher, who will regularly supply the market, daily, with fresh meat during the year. A good, substantial man, destitute of the freaks incident to masonry, will find good encouragement."

Numerous other equally base efforts were made by the masons to destroy me and totally ruin my business. Outrage followed outrage in quick succession, which I forbear to notice here, lest I should make this appendix too long; but such were the bitter hostilities pursued by the Freemasons against me, that a Senatorial convention for District No. 8, convened at Batavia, N. Y. on the 28th of January, 1829, passed the following resolution.

"*Resolved*, That the cold-blooded and deliberate malice exhibited by the Masonic Fraternity, and their more contemptible associates, towards Samuel D. Greene, a seceding mason, and a member of the Presbyterian Church in Batavia, who, at an early day, embarked in the present glorious struggle for equal rights and privileges, and against whom a series of outrages have been continually directed, with a purpose steady as time, and appetite keen as death; and from which it would seem nothing but his entire ruin and prostration, both in character and property, or the grave itself, could rescue him, has excited the general sympathy of this Convention, and ought, and we have no doubt will, receive the most decided and marked disapprobation of every honest man in the community."

My creatures were killed; my dog was taken down to the brook, his throat cut from ear to ear, and buried at low water mark; the windows of my house were broken; the furniture of my bar destroyed, and my liquors spilled. Masons putting up at my house would steal their own cloaks and blankets from their carriages, then prosecute me for the value, from a distant part of the county, putting me to great expense and trouble to nonsuit them, and sometimes not till after they had by some means or other, obtained two or three adjournments, and caused me and my witnesses to travel the distance over as many times. This was done to bring my tavern into disrepute, and the story was industriously circulated that traveller's things were not safe at my house. My furniture injured, and in my attempt to save it from destruction, I have been choked in my own house till my family were alarmed lest my life should be taken. All this done with the avowed intention of tempting me to commit assault and battery, or seek redress by law suit, that they might avail themselves of the law, to destroy me effectually. My help hired to leave me, others sent, who, after hired, would get in debt, and

prove unfaithful. Sham sales of stage horses made to unprincipled drivers, who would keep their teams at my house, on usual contracts, and when a quarterly bill was presented against the ostensible owner, it would be shoved off upon the driver, who was irresponsible and would abscond, or if sued, pay the debt upon the jail limits. Merchants with whom I had dealt, would divide my accounts, and sue me on every days trade, causing me to pay unnecessary costs. Thus I was annoyed, and one specimen more out of many endured, shall suffice at this time, lest I make my appendix too long. During the setting of one of the Courts, and my house full of boarders, an evidence in court brought a large iron bound box to my house containing 25 rattle-snakes, which he had taken in Michigan, for a man in the City of New York. After speaking for his board and lodging at my house, he obtained permission to store his box in my granary till the close of the Court, or the case, on which he was an evidence, should be disposed of. Certain freemasons found out that there was such a box containing these animals in my possession, and they contrived to alarm the neighbourhood and frighten the women and children with the story, which was circulated in all parts of the village at the same time, that the snakes had escaped and they were in danger of being bitten. The windows flew up, the women called in their children, while the masons followed by the boys and a rabble, simultaneously, rushed into my house and yards, sheds and barns, bearing all kinds of weapons to kill the snakes, thickening the air with screeching and screaming, loading me and my house with curses and all manner of epithets, because I had suffered the box to be left, and the snakes to escape. *When lo! the snakes were all this time safe in the box.* This was done to frighten away some of my custom; but finding this plan had failed, they went immediately to the mothers of my hired girls, and said to them, "Greene would not part with your girls on any account." "Why," said the mother. "Because, said this mason, Greene has got twenty-four rattle-snakes in his cellar wall, and your girl is the only one who dares visit his cellar." The mothers half frightened to death hastened to my house to persuade their daughters to run no more risks but to leave my house immediately. This *deranged my business*, and delayed my cooking, while my domestics were engaged to allay

the excitement, but nothing would satisfy the mothers until their girls would leave the house. By thus depriving me of help, and spreading such a report, I had to incur great expense, and for it, unnecessary labour, to replace my help. And when my house was full, in the recess of the court, the masons, headed by Johnson Goodwill, the perjured witness from Batavia, when partly drunk, would ride up their horses within my piazza, and call for rattlesnake soup, and lighting from their horses travel through my bar-room, pretending to knock the snakes from their heels.

Finding it impossible to pursue my business as a public taverner in Batavia, I disposed of my establishment in the spring of 1829; and for the purpose of obtaining the avails of a small mortgage I had in Connecticut, I took a journey to that State, and during my travels, visited Boston, where I received some propositions which induced me, if I could settle my business in Western New York, to embrace, and move to Boston. I returned to Batavia and settled my affairs in the best possible manner, and returned to Boston in December, 1829. Believing it a duty to do all in my power to destroy so great an enemy to religion and law, and religiously believing that freemasonry is the man of sin spoken of by the apostle in the 2d chapter of 2d Thessalonians, I commenced travelling and giving public lectures on Freemasonry, and spreading information by obtaining subscriptions to Antimasonic newspapers, and had much success, while the Boston Masonic Mirror, the organ of the masonic institution in Massachusetts, published by Moore & Sevey, and the New York Batavia Times, published by Frederick Follett, (a notorious witness who came from Batavia to Boston to swear against me,) kept up against me a constant rotine of masonic slanders, and one of those articles published in the Times and then in the Mirror, I was induced to notice, and in behalf of the commonwealth, complained of Moore & Sevey for a libel, of which for want of testimony, that was impossible to obtain at the time, the defendants were acquitted. Notwithstanding the determination of the masons to destroy me and my family, and bring disgrace upon religion and the church of Christ, of which I am, though unworthy, a member, I have made my defence and published this my appendix.

In the close of this appeal I give an extract from the Republican Advocate of Batavia, of February 23, 1827, which contains the views of Col. David C. Miller, compressed in "simple items" unaccompanied by comment, this is left to the reader." So many communications were pressing in from every quarter excited by the late outrages on Morgan and Miller.

"*Item* 1. To the question often put by Masons, "where is your authority for fastening upon Masons generally, particularly those of the higher order, a knowledge of, and consequent parti-

cipation in the late outrages," we answer, it consists in implication; for it cannot be presumed that the nature of the case will admit of direct proof, entrenched as that order is by its discipline, wielding an engine of gloom and of terrors.* Its participation is to be inferred from such facts as casually come to light: The following are some among many others that have a direct bearing upon the case:—Before any outrage had yet been committed, and while a grand Convocation was then in session inNew-York, composed of Masons from every State in the Union except three or four, a high Mason of this village, *Doctor Richard Dibble* announced that the Grand Lodge had sent on orders to suppress at all hazards, at the expence of life and treasure, Morgan's contemplated publication. Confident as well in his Masonic strength as in the disposition of his brethren, the same Doctor Richard Dibble also declared that *he could procure a sufficient number of Masonic Ministers of the Gospel and Deacons of the Church to tear down Miller's buildings.*

Item 2. On Whispers, (*loud* and far spread whispers, however,) that the *Royal* dictum of the Grand Convocation was *Suppression!* a change was visible in the countenances as well as conversation of the brotherhood; men and horses were put in requisition, and were under motion night and day. Men, who had passed through the *formalities*, yet knew little and cared less about the Grand *Masonic Machinery* that put them in motion, awoke, as from a dream, to action, and night and day, far and near spread the alarm—"*Our Craft is in danger!*" Who furnished the funds to support these brawlers in equipages, and their families in the meantime with bread?

Item 3. A day or two after the outrages, Mr. David E. Evans left this village for New-York; and on calling on his friend M. M. Noah, and recounting to him the disgusting and disgraceful transaction, Noah, raising both his hands, involuntarily exclaimed, "*My God! I told them not to do it!*"—This simple exclamation, while it exonerates Mr. Noah, contains volumes.

Item 4. The Editor of the Commercial Advertiser, Mr. Stone, about this time made the assertion in his paper, that the papers

* *Wielding an Engine of gloom and of terrors.* Before we embarked in the publication of Morgan's exposure of Masonry, dictated by his advice as well as by that of common prudence, we called upon well informed masons, in various sections of the State, to ascertain their sentiments and feelings relative to the utility of the Order. Satisfied that their views corresponded with ours; that masonry was perverted to the worst of purposes, by the worst of men; that it had long since ceased to be even a local blessing, and had become a general curse and scourge; we cheerfully and promptly engaged in its exposure. On the commencement of the outrages, and during the flood of masonic anathemas, pouring in from every quarter, several on whom we had called became alarmed, and earnestly desired us not to mention that we had held communication with them on the subject of masonry, (although none of them knew our motives when we were penetrating the recesses of their hearts) remarking at the same time, "should you hear of any thing falling from our lips, calculated to wound your feelings, do, for God's sake, attribute it to the right cause."

illegally obtained from Morgan, (we say illegally) had been presented to the Grand Lodge, and on a thorough inspection were pronounced "*worthless.*" What is to be inferred from this, when connected with subsequent events?

Item 5. The *general* participation of masons is visible in their words and actions, as well as deeds; in their threats as well as silence; in their attempts to awe and muzzle free presses, or presses that should be free. It is to be seen in their vain boasting and daring; in their annunciation "that they could have had ten thousand in the Batavia mob, as easily as one hundred and fifty;"* that thousands and tens of thousands would obey their call from the remotest corners of the globe.

Item 6. Its influence and participation is visible in the conduct of some of our ministerial and judicial officers; in the partiality exhibited by some of our Grand Inquests; it is seen and felt in their strong efforts to gloss over the actions, and let slip through the fingers of justice the actors in masonic outrages.

Item 7. The lurking and lingering avowal of disapprobation, set forth in the late proceedings of the Grand Chapter at Albany; their evident desire to hush in slumber the spirit of inquiry; their want of even the cloak of sincerity; their point-no-point investigation and report, tell a tale that will sink deep in the heart, and call forth reflections, even upon the slumbering pillow. Some of its members (we have strong proof for the assertion) were stained with the blood of Morgan.

Item 8. We will close, for our limits call for a termination, by introducing the following letter, received two days ago, post marked "*Albany, Feb.* 15," without signature or any other date, addressed, "Col. David C. Miller, Batavia. This is not sent by a friend, but one who would let you have an hour to repent before you suffer the punishment of your crimes. Your fate is now *sealed.* All your precautions and secret preparations for defence will be rendered entirely useless. No human efforts can possibly save you from the dreadful sentence that has been decreed.† If you regard the welfare of your soul hereafter, you will not neglect this warning."

This letter was sealed with three seals, emblematic of blood; and written in the vicinity, if not on the seat, yet uncooled, where sat the Delegates composing the *Grand Royal Arch Convocation.*"

To give one instance among many that might be given to show the means made use of to spread terror and bind the community to silence, I will give a copy of an anonymous letter received by

* This was the declaration of *Joseph Nixon,* a resident and teacher in this village, and an Englishman. It was expressed in a broad and drawling Northumberland accent.

† *Decreed!* By whom? when and where? By the Royal Arch Chapter of the State of New York?

a gentleman who had been active in furnishing means to assist Morgan and Miller in the publication of the secrets of masonry. It was written in a disguised hand, and directed to the resident at Rochester, a copy of which was published in the Rochester Republican, and afterwards in the Batavia Advocate, in 1826.

"Mr. Russell Dyer, Sir, the active part taken by you and others, is likely to be paid as its merits. Where is William Morgan? *Fear and tremble.* How far is this place from Batavia?"

I will now give the advertisement published in the Republican Advocate, of October 4, 1826, signed by ten of the most respectable citizens of Batavia, appointed at a previous meeting of the citizens of that place and vicinity, who were aroused to action by the acts of masonic violence and outrage.

TO THE PUBLIC.

On the 11th of September, William Morgan, a native of Virginia, who had for about three years past resided in this village, was, under pretext of a Justices warrant, hurried from his home and family, and carried to Canandaigua. The same night he was examined, on a charge of Petit Larceny, and discharged by the Justice. One of the persons who took him away, immediately obtained a warrant against him, in a civil suit, for an alleged debt of two dollars, on which he was committed to the Jail of Ontario County. On the night of the 12th of September, he was released by a person pretending to be his friend; but directly in front of the Jail, notwithstanding his cries of *murder*, he was gagged and secured, and put into a carriage, and after travelling all night, he was left (as the driver of the carriage says) at Hanford's Landing, about sun-rise on the 13th, since which he has not been heard of. His distressed wife and two infant children, are left dependent on charity for their sustenance; the circumstances of the transaction have given rise to the most violent fears that he has been murdered. It is however hoped by his wife and friends, that he may be now kept concealed and imprisoned in Canada. All persons who are willing to serve the cause of humanity, and assist to remove the distressing apprehensions of his unfortunate wife, are earnestly requested to communicate to one of the Committee named below, directed to this place, any parts or circumstances which have come to their knowledge, and are calculated to lead to the discovery of his present situation, or the particulars of his fate, if he has been murdered.

Batavia, Oct. 4, 1826.

Committee....T. F. Talbot, D. E. Evans, T. Cary, William Keyes, Wm. Davis, Jona. Lay, T. Fitch, L. D. Prindle, E. Southworth, James P. Smith.

N. B. It is to be hoped that Printers throughout the State, in Canada, and elsewhere, will give the above a few insertions, and thus serve the cause of justice and humanity.

This was for a long time a standing advertisement. The paper was sent to the principal newspaper offices in the United States, and some to the British Provinces. And although requested, as the cause of justice and humanity, and the anxieties

of a suffering wife and children, would seem to move its insertion; yet but two or three editors were moved to insert it. Every editor should blush at the recital of this alarming fact. Not a single editor out of New York copied it. Nobody at a distance could learn any thing of the facts from any of the publications of the day, while they were filled with trivial occurrences. Some of the editors even sneered at the excitement, which they well knew from the papers sent to their offices by the Batavia editor, and said that the "infected district." (meaning Batavia and vicinity, where the outrages commenced, and the consequent excitement of the honest free citizens) ought to be named "Morganania." Can it be wondered that those citizens became alarmed at the silence of the press, in every thing that related to the atrocious acts of Freemasons towards Morgan and Miller? It was in a state of fastidious dumbness. Its warning voice was not heard. Masonry had bound it in chains, exhibiting a flagrant instance of dereliction of duty and blind subserviency to the mandates of masonry. This was in the commencement of the developments which show incontestibly the appalling power, influence and spirit of the masonic combination. The necessity of establishing free presses was seen by those friendly to the dissemination of truth, and "the supremacy of the laws." They began to arise, and like light-houses to shine forth amidst the darkness, solitude, gloom and terror with which masonry had enshrouded the land. On the 7th of October, 1826, the following resolutions with others, were passed at a meeting of the citizens of the town of Victor and vicinity.

Resolved, That we view with abhorrence and detestation the late open violation of every principle which has distinguished our free government among the nations of the earth, in the outrages committed upon *William Morgan* and *Wife*, and *David C. Miller*, of Batavia, by certain persons, who it appears, acted under the sanction, and by the authority of the Lodges of Freemasons. But we hold in special detestation the base prostitutions of the laws of our country, for the vile purposes of kidnapping or murdering our citizens.

Resolved, That any secret institution which countenances such scenes of desperate violence and lawless outrages on the rights and persons of our fellow citizens, should be looked upon as no better than an organized and disciplined mob.

Resolved, That we have lost all confidence in those public functionaries, who basely prostitute their offices, in open violation of all law and justice, for party purposes and private vengeance.

Resolved, That no confidence should be placed in those public journals which maintain a wilful and studied silence concerning the late nefarious transactions, which have disgraced this part of our country, and that we will immediately withdraw our support from them.

Resolved, That no person should be supported for any office whatever, who acknowledges an authority superior to the laws of our country.

Resolved, That we will use all lawful means in our power, to find out, hold up to public view, and, if possible, bring to justice, all those who were concerned in the late villainous transactions.

Resolved, That a committee of six be chosen to use their endeavors, concert with other committees, which are, or may be appointed for the purpose, to ascertain the situation of *William Morgan*, if he be *living*, or his *fate*, if *dead*, and although we may not be able to effect the *restoration* of Morgan, to his family, we hope we shall be able to prevent a repetition of similar outrages.

This was the first meeting where a resort to the ballot box was announced, and political anti-masonry commenced in the State of New York. The necessity of this course was clearly seen by those high-minded, intelligent and patriotic citizens. The facts elicited in the subsequent trials of the *Morgan Conspirators*, and the subserviency of masonic magistrates, lawyers, sheriffs, jurors and witnesses, and the whole corps of masonic editors, from September 10, 1826, to the present time, not only in the State of New York, but through every part of the United States, and the whole masonic empire of which the United States forms only a province, fully justifies the wisdom of this early expression of *Political Anti-masonry*. The only weapon in this warfare that can promise any success in a republican government, and produce the complete extirpation of this murderous institution. And may Heaven grant, that a triumphant victory may be achieved.

At this time, to the surprize of every friend of humanity and justice, it was discovered that the governor was a mason, one of the highest dignitaries of the infamous order, and as a mason was believed to have known of the existence of the masonic conspiracy against Morgan and Miller. Many of the judges were masons; forty-five of the fifty-six sheriffs throughout the State were masons, and of course their deputies and constables, in the same proportion; no grand inquests could be assembled but a majority would be masons. This will explain why so long time intervened before a single indictment could be found; for the people had yet to learn, that with the administration of justice purified from the influence of masonry, yet masonry even then could trample on the laws, and defy the administration of justice, with its mute, contemptuous and perjured witnesses, acting in obedience to the masonic oaths.

I will now give the resolutions passed at Wheatland, at a meeting of the ladies of that town and vicinity, after a spirited address from Mrs. William Garbut, on the 3d of November, 1826.

"*Resolved*, That having been made acquainted with the Masonic Oath, we believe the atrocities which have been stated, originated in masonry, and if the perpetrators are not brought to unequivocal and impartial justice, we call on every friend to humanity, to endeavour a total suppression of the Order of St. John.

Resolved, That whatever may have been the purity of the Ancient Masonic Temple, it has become a den of thieves, and light and reason unite to overthrow the tables of symbol changers.

Resolved, That where the gospel sun shines bright in every corner, it is painfully ridiculous to see rational beings groping after the emblematical figures and dark lanterns of masonry.

Resolved, That we view with the deepest abhorrence, the premeditated, systematic and brutal violence exercised in the case of Mor-

gan, and which ought to be stigmatized by every friend of humanity and man.

Resolved, That every Institution that has no direct or indirect tendency to improve the condition of mankind, is beneath the notice of rational and accountable creatures.

Resolved, That the time and money spent in masonic orgies, is robbing their families and connexions of their natural and just claims, and is calculated to excite distrust, and create discord in families.

Resolved, That every mother should duly consider the degrading disadvantages and unmerited contempt to which they consign their daughters, by their union with Freemasons.

Resolved, That the glittering union of mighty names, Pagan or Christian, should never varnish crimes or bias the dispensation of justice.

Resolved, That we support and stimulate, as far as is consistent with the female character, all upright and lawful endeavours, to bring to justice any man or lawless banditti, that can wantonly dispose of the life and liberty of our fellow citizen, in opposition to our laws, and on pretence of some silly and mysterious words and actions of the fraternity of masons, and we herein express our horror and detestation of all such outrageous and riotous proceedings."

Eight years have now passed away. The murderers of Morgan, and their numerous accessaries scattered over a great extent of country still live. Murderous Freemasonry throws over them its effective shield and protects them in its foul embrace unscathed by the faithful execution of the laws. And even in this city of Boston, distinguished as its citizens justly are, for their intelligence, love of order, justice, and "the supremacy of the laws," so late as 1833, a known and self-acknowledged *Morgan Conspirator*, had the effrontery to present himself before a Boston jury as an unimpeachable witness, to swear down my character, and attempt to affix such a stigma to it as suited him and his brother conspirators to give me, in obedience to their masonic oaths. Let no one hereafter say, masonry has had no influence in the courts of Massachusetts; and where is the security for life, liberty, property, or character of its citizens, when masonic jurors and masonic witnesses are secretly arrayed against them? Masonry, whose object and aim is to exalt itself above the laws of God and man, whose existence is a violation of every principle of the social compact, destructive to the fundamental principles of law, justice and equal rights, and is treason against any government of law, still is able in the State of New York to set the execution of the laws at defiance, and trample them under foot. And it is only by the dissemination of the truth, respecting the nature, principles and spirit of the masonic institution, among the citizens of the United States and the consequent political action at the BALLOT BOX, that will ever be able to extirpate this foul excrescence on the body politic, and save our Republic from the most degrading despotism that ever it pleased God, in his righteous displeasure to afflict a people. If by any humble exertions of mine, this is effected for our country, that it may remain the "home of the brave, and the land of the free," I shall feel conscious of doing my duty, and amply repaid for all my exertions, sacrifices and sufferings.

SAMUEL D. GREENE.

Boston, September 23, 1834.

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